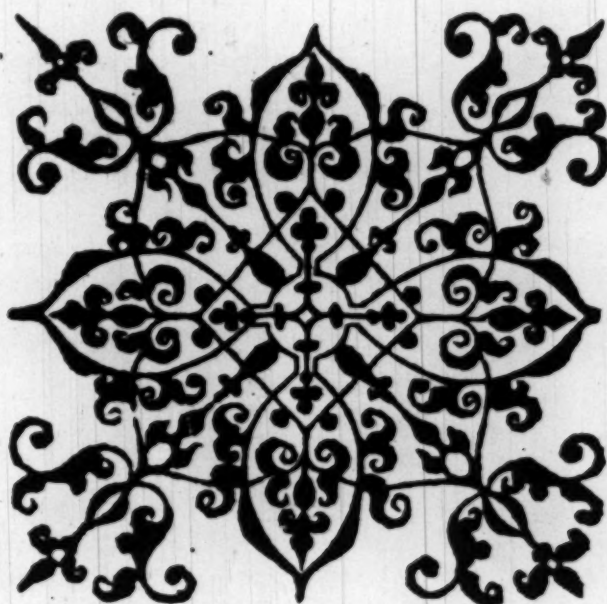


A Defiance to Fortune,
Proclaimed by Andrugio, no-
ble Duke of SAXONY, declaring his miseries, and con-
tinually crossed with vnconstant Fortune, the ba-
nishment of himselfe, his wife and
children,

Whereunto is adioyned the honora-
ble Warres of Galastino, Duke of Millaine in
revenge of his wrongs upon the tray-
terous Saxons.

Wherin is noted a myrrour of noble pati-
ence, a most rare example of modest chastity, and
the perfect patterne of true friendship.
Verie delectable and full of
varietie.

Written by H.R.



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Printed at London

Duke of Millaine

1590

A defiance to fortune

The Card of Hance

Am. L. 1590

Written by J. H. R.

17





TO THE WORSHIPEVL WILLIAM,
Borough, Esquire, comptroller of her Maesties roiall
Nauie. H. R. wisheth long and happy life, with
fortunate successe in all your attemptes,
and after death the ioyes e-
uerlasting.



ALEXANDER (Right
Worshipfull) amongst
men greatest on the earth,
ceasing his hard toile frō
pursuit of his enemies,
he held no recreation in
such account, as reading
of histories, especially such
as treated of the honours
gained by noble warri-
ours long before his time entombed in the intralles of
the earth: wherein his delight was as much as in
maniging his iteed, or shiuering his lance in the midst
of his foes.

SCIPIO that noble Romaine which subdued ma-
nie nations had no small delight in the like exercise: no-
ting by reading the cuentes of war, and pleasant taies
of fortune, how Warriours gained honor: and then a-
gaine how they were subdued: the mighty kings by pe-
santes and men of base account displaced, and the ig-
noble exalted, changing all estates at her pleasure. This
Fortune (of the Poets fained a Goddesse) hauing the

The Epistle Dedicatory.

raigne of all estates in her hand, disposeth like a blind guide, at her wil, setting vp and pulling down, whom she list to ouerthrowe or aduance.

An example of which (right Wor.) I present to you in this historie, wherein you shall see her mutabilitie, shewing continuallie her froward & vnconstant mind, incrossing that noble and unhappie prince Andrugio, sometime Duke of Saxonie, whose miseries exceeded all that euer I read or heard of: from the sixteenth yeare of his age neuer inioieng long time of content according to his estate, but manie daies spent he in extreame miserie, as the historie of his life shal manifest, to which I leaue you: humbly beseeching your Worship to shield it vnder your protection, and when time shall permit you leasure, vouchsafe the reading of it, in which I doubt not (albeit the style be rude) but that you shall finde something to delight you.

And if it so happen, I haue my wish, and the long desire I haue had to make my zeale knowne vnto your worship, in some sort is satisfied.

Your VVorship to command
vntill death.

• H. R.



The Miseries of ANDRUGIO, Duke of
Saxonie.



SIENA, famous throughout the world for beautiful situation, ciuill gouernment, good education, and profiting of her students, was so renowned, that none of any reputation liuing within the dominions of the Emperour, but had an especiall desire to haue their sonnes trained in that vniuersitie, especially the Dukes, princes and Nobles. Amongst many gallant yowthes, to whose eares fame had brought this peerlesse report of so goodly a City with the vertues therein abounding, Andrugio sonne and heire apparant to the noble Duke of Saxonie, a toward Gentleman, prone to all vertuous exercises, desirous to attaine the knowledge of al artes, bearing the fame of Siena, desirous also to see the place, and to spend his time in study, as also to acquaint himselfe with other princes which came from all partes to this place to see their behauiour, and knowe the maners of their countrie: pricked with a continual desire to this attempt, maketh humble suite vnto the Duke his father for the furthering of this entent, which so long he prosecuted in such earnest maner, that after manifold denials of the aged Duke, as a louing father, whose tender care might not endure the absence of his deare and only sonne, hauing a fatherly regard vnto him, yea, and more than ordinarie affection of fathers vnto their children wearied also with the importance of his suites, which day and night he continually solicited, both by himselfe and

A Defiance

his friends, at length granteth his good will (as what is it that parentes will not graunt for their childrens benefit?) yet to be aduised better before he suffer him to depart, sommoneth all his Nobles and Estates of the countrie, beseeching their counsailes touching the request of his sonne: Unto whome hee recounteth the effect of the Princes earnest suite.

These Nobles hearing so honorable a motion of the young Lord, wel noting his delight in studie at home, being of years so tender, not yet attaining to the full tearm of sixteen yeers, were wonderfully amazed to hear so earnest a suit from so childish a mouth. wherefore, as desirous to further his suite, hauing considered what profite it would be vnto them, and their posteritie in time to come, to haue a wise, learned, & well gouerned prince, with other vertues which attend the learned, which bring knowledge of the Gods, and indue the followers with ciuill policie, and good gouernment, liuing in great hope hee woulde proue to be such a one as he seemed: they geue their consent for his departure, & became humble suitors also for y^e obtaining y^e same at the Dukes hands: at whose request he is content it should be so, giuing his Nobles thanks for their fauours towards his son, commanded that presently he be furnished with all thinges besitting his estate, which with all speed was performed. The Duke taking all his care for honest, wise and well gouerned Tutor for him, which might by their discrete and sage counsell, train him in such wise, that after the Castoffing of his life, he might proue (as his hope was) honorable, learned, and wise, that he might be worthe to gouerne so noble a countrie, and they haue top of so young a Prince, seeing him such dutie as becommeth subiectes to their Soueraigne, which he might requite with a tender loue of a prince, and a carefull mind of his peoples good.

The last that was made in providing of all thinges for the princes iourney, according to his desire, is accomplished, wherefore (accompanied with many young Noblemen of his countrie

to Fortune.

countrie, and Gentlemen sent by their Parents for the Princes companie, Comming betore the Duke, as desirous to loose as litle time as might be) they humbly take their leaues to depart. At which, many a teare both of the Duke and his Nobles was shed , for whom his father indured many sorrowfull daies thorow his absence: yet could he not denie his request, nor seek to crosse his desires, which were honorable, and becomming the son of so noble and famous a father.

Lord ANDRUGIO his departure from the Court
vvith his aduentures,



The noble mind of this young prince, now in the flourishing tyme of his age, began to shewe it selfe in such sort, as he might well be known to descend of so honorable parentage as the Duke of Saxonie: for, as the sonne-beames cannot be hid, so did vertue appeare in him, picking a forwardnesse to his desires, to see the maners and gouernment of other countries: But too soone (alas) hath this naturall Father yielded to the desire of so greene a head, whose yeares doo hardly require the raine to be left in his owne hand, as you shall heare.

Fortune, mutable & vnconstant dame, desirous to shew what she could doo, hauing brought this youngling to the top of his desires, began now to checke him with such a bit as might well serue a colt of elder yeares, for being void of all doubtess of any mischaunce to betide him or his companions, such miseries was he oppressed with, as are most lamentable to be remembred.

For, vnderstand after his departure from the Court of his Father, trauciling by guides (as the maner of the countrey is) thorow vncouth places, empyoned with wooddes, and haunted wth multitudes of wilde beastes, a noble man of Italy, banished from his countrie for a most hainous treason

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conspired against the prince of the land, ranged continually those desertes, where he with his companions became most cruell mansears, and spoylers of as many as fell into their hands, without feare of God, or respect of christianity. Neuer was there any tyrant of what name or condition soeuer, so cruel as this mischeyuous Gonsala Ierimanim, for so was he called.

Earnest trauell within small time hath brought this youth Andrugio with his companie within the precinct of this cursed murderer, where he kept his residence, lodged in caues and holdes of their own framing. Of whose scouts Andrugio was no sooner espied, but with all possible speed they prouide to incete them, armed in all partes, as if they should encounter their professed enemies in the field.

Andrugio void of all feare, tooke great pleasure in this iourney, passing in pleasant discourses the time to beguile their trauell: But (alas) in midst of these pleasures, befel them most unhappie fortune, euen as the sillie lambes, skipping by the side of their tender damme, is by the rauening Wolfe bereaued of life. So fares it with Andrugio, who no sooner came to the place wher these reprobats lay in ambush, attending their comming. But Gonsala stern & fierce of courage with his followers resolved to be their deathes, furiously assailed them, and in small time, taking them at aduantage, ouercame them, leauing not one to breath, as they supposed, bathing their murdering blades in the blood of these Gentils: taking spoyle of their treasure and other prouision, they leaue their bodics couered with mosse and loose leaues, speeding them to their places of refuge, reioicing with the spoile of those poore innocents, whom most traitterously they had slaine.

Now beholde the vnspakeable goodnesse of God vnto this Lord Andrugio, whose woundes being not so deep as the rest of his friendes, after a litle tyme began to recouer, when breathing with a piteous grone, he strived to recouer his feet to stand: but the blood being cold about his woundes
caused

caused such a stiffness, that impossible it was for him to move, with taking cold after his long bleeding: yet by the permission of the highest, unto whose holy will all creatures bend, in short time he recovered reasonable memory: when viewing round about him the staine carcases of his followers and friends, with pitious shrieks and lamentable plaints complaining his misfortune on this wise.

Andrugio, what cruell starres guided thy by day: or what cursed hag bewitched thee to motion a suit vnto thy noble father, so greatly displeasing the Gods, who noting thy follies, haue appointed these vnnmercifull murderers to daunger thine owne life, and bereaue thee of thy friends, appointed by thy carefull father for a comfort vnto thee: O that the heauens had neuer condescended vnto my natiuitie, or that in my cradle I had (like Hercules) bene assailed by some poysoned serpents, which might haue abridged my life! But like Mydas wish I for that that displeaseth the Gods. Andrugio, unhappie Andrugio, and most vnfortunate in being lonne vnto so noble a Duke, whose life must end in these accursed desartes, and no man to make report vnto thy aged father, what is become of thee or thy companions, whose deaths by following thee in thy follie, is thus befallen them: cursed therefore Andrugio, whose desires haue robbed so noble gentlemen of their sonnes, gallant ladies and faire gentlewomen of their loues, and thy renowned father of an heire to succede him in his Dukedome. O heauens, might your furie with my life haue bene appeased, how happie had I bene! that the wrath of him whom I haue prouoked to ire, might haue fallen vpon mine owne head: then noble friends, should you haue enioyed life to haue reported my tragedy, which now are left vord of all comfort to be a pray to the rauening beastes of this Desert, and to the foules of the aire. Yet kind Gods, whose pitifull condition is not to punish at ful, the wickednes of your creatures: Heare with the eares of mercy my last petition, and sende thy messenger Ziperus to blow into the eares of our com-

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forlesse Parentes and friendes, our vntimely tragedics, that they knowing the place where our mangled bodics lie, may extomb vs with our ancestors, and reuenge our deaths on those most cursed homicides, whose bloody handes haue bene our confusions.

Scarsly could he finish his sorrowfull speech, when being faint with the losse of blood issuing from his wounds, and overcharged with sorrow for his friends lieng slain by him, he gaue so heauie a sigh as might haue moued a hart of flint to pitie his estate.

In this extremitie, behold, a comfort for loe, a poore labouring man, seruant vnto a miller, dwelling two milcs distant from the place where he receiued his wounds, searching for the strayed beastes of his saide master Miller, happened by great chance to ouerheare this wofull complaint: which ended, standing halfe amased to heare so sweet a voice, casting many waies in his simple minde the daungers, and subtilties of spoiling miscreants, supposed verily that it had bin a deuile of some villaine, lurking thereabouts of purpose to betray traueilers, and to bring them within their compasse to rob them. Thus many wayes misdoubting the worst, not yet resolved whether to depart, or to see what he was that made such a pitcous mone: at length taking vnto him the hart of Sampson, he boldly stepped ouer the hedge into the groue whereas this wounded Andrugio lay.

No sooner was he entred this groue, but viewing round the place, like a good Dilate for feare of rocks, glancing his eyes estioons to the ground, then els where, hee chaunced to espie great stoze of blood, which when he had with no smal admiration beheld, putting on his holyday countenance, like an hardie squire, he marched on, following the tracke of the blood, vntil he came vnto that place wher eas all those dead carkasses lay, when he had recouered the sight of these wounded men, his hart trembled with griefe, & was worse moued at the discouering of them then euer in his life before

to Fortune.

foze, standing thus in his dumps, deuising whether it were best to touch them or no: casting his eyes stedfastly on them, suruaileng their grievous woundes. Andrugio faint and full of paine with the extremitie of his woundes, breathed softlie: which being noted of this swaine, drew neere vnto him, layeng tenderly his hand on the stomach of Andrugio felt a panting short wind within him, whereat the man being somewhat ioyfull, rubbed his temples, so by little and little recovered him.

When this kind-hearted swaine had by his diligence recovered Andrugio, and that perfectnesse of memorie was againe restored him, as a wight grieved at the mischances he saw was hapned, he comforteth him in this wise.

Gentleman (quoth he) for so your countenance sheweth me, what euill fortune hath brought you vnto this pitifull plight: or by whose hands haue you with these your companione bene so cruellie mangled: tell me I beseech you, that reuenging your iniuries, I may pursue with diligence those bloodthirsty villaines, and by their deathes make satisfaction to the Gods, and those innocent soules that they haue murdered.

Andrugio with gashty countenance looking earnestlie in the face of this comforter, after hee had a while attentively hearkened vnto his speeches, thus answered.

Whosoeuer thou be (gentle friend) that the Gods haue thus appointed for my help in this extremitie: I pray thanks according to thy courteous deserts: but couldest thou shew as much grace to these my distressed friends here lieng, howe great cause I should haue to glorifie the Gods, and honor thee, my tongue cannot expresse, wretched and unfortunate that I am: yet gentle friend, in whom such courtesie remaineth, do me fauour so much, as to tell me howe thou earnest to this place, and thy dwelling: and thou that art a man christian and kind, as thy paines on me bestowed beare witness, vouchsafe, in such sort as thou canst, to comfort these my friendes, and see if it hath so pleased the Gods to giue any

A Defiance

one of them leaue to escape the heauie vengeance of those accursed slaues that haue robbed vs of our substance, and murdered our bodies: and the rest that haue preloed their liues to the furie of those tyrants blades, helpe me to entomb them according to their callinges, who were all Gentlemen of account, which is the greatest honour I can doe them: for the which as they died Innocents, their soules shall yeeld thee thanks before the throne of the greatest god where we shall all meete.

Sir (quoth the swaine) I see your wan lookes betoken faintnesse, by occasion of your great losse of blood: wherefore if you will hearken vnto the counsell of so simple a creature as my selfe, you shall cease this parlie vntill you shal better endure it, and haue recouered more strength. Two miles at least haue I to my maisters home, which is a lillie cottage, not worthy to entertaine such a one as you seeme to be: yet as it is, your welcome shalbe as to your owne: his only victuals is goats milk, a white cake, oile, & honny, which command at your will. If these may in extremitie pleasure you, arde and rest you on my shoulders, for I see you are feeble, vntill I haue brought you where you may refresh you. As for your friends, whom you so much bewaile, suffer them to rest in peace, for your wailings may not be any way auaylable vnto them, and to morrow my maister, with such helpe as we can prouide, shal fulfill your request, and burie them, though not as you would wish, yet as we may, in the better sort.

Andrugio wounded and faint, hearkening to his words þ he spake of good wil, began to rouse himself: but so weak was he, that alone without helpe might not stirre: wherefore the swaine taking him in his armes, set him alone on his feete. But in vaine it was, for stand he could not: which seeing, the poore swaine shewing a good inclination, as one becomming some better education then he proffered, bound first his wounds, so þ through straining they might not bleed: when taking his bodie as gently as hee might on
his

to Fortune.

his necke, commaith him as speedilie as was possible to the Millers house, where as he abode with great trouble. At last they haue attained this mill, long (God knowes) of them desired before they came thither: whether they being come, Druba (for so was the swaine called) recounteth vnto the Miller and his wife the perplexed estate of this Gentleman Andrugio, with the losse of his friendly companions, bereaued of life by the murderous handes of many villaines, all strange and unknowne vnto them.

The pitifull grandmother, being of a right womanish nature, could not refrain shedding of teares to heare this sorrowfull proces: yet at last, to shew how welcome the distressed noble was, albeit a mere stranger vnto them, she bathed his woundes, and applied therunto such husbandly salues as she thought might profite best, in restoring his health. This done, she brought him such vianders as shee had ready prepared, commanding her daughter to provide some comfortable brothes for him, which was speedilie perfourmed. When he had refreshed his wearied weak carcase, the good old wife began for his better comfort these speeches.

Sir (quoth she) though the Gods haue giuen you ouer into the handes of those miscreants, that haue sought your life, yet be not dismayed, thanke their Deities, that in the sharpest of their furie, haue preserved you from death, no doubt for some better fortune, and to reuenge the slaughter of your friends on those villaines: for which their graciousnes geue them thanks, and scate not your health. In the meane time, if you thinke good to accept such homely entertainment as I can giue you, welcome shall bee your best cheare, and what els you want command at your pleasure: my dearest and onely daughter Susania shall attend you vntill your strength be recovered.

Thanks (quoth Andrugio) to the heauely powers first, for providing me this good: and next to thee (my friendlie Hostesse) for thy fauour bestowed on me, which might perish without comfort: but what friendship thou shalt impart

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unto

A Defiance

unto me in this distresse, if the pleasure of the deare Deity
be to restore me againe, thy courtesie shal be recompenced,
and this kindnesse to thee and thine neuer be forgotten.

Thus leaue we Andrugio a while at his rest, attended
on with Susania, courteous and friendly unto her charge, de-
livered by her ancient mother: the old wife taking like care
for the burfall of the dead bodies, which in the best sort was
happily accomplished.

Susania y good wench, attending diligently on her charge,
hath in short time by the care she had of him, recovered his
strength, that forsaking his bed, he walked often about his
chamber, not daring yet to adventure into the ayre. Andru-
gio all this time of sicknesse noted the courteous demeanour
of his attendant: and often times, as strength increased in
him, would take great pleasure to trie her wit by pleasant
parlie, sometime discoursing of one thing, and so enter-
changeable of many. But so long she sate playfully with the
flame, that at length she is constrained to die through her
folly: so fares it now with Andrugio, whose fine head had
so long propounded quick questions, and was so sharpe
answered of Susania, that his fancie began to settle on the
maiden in such sort, that it grew from small kindled coales,
to great flames: insomuch that nothing was pleasing unto
him, if Susania had not bene at the doing thereof: yea, such
in short time became his affections, that neuer was his
wounds so grievous as the absence of Susania: evermore
recounting in his mind her beaute, courtesie, and qualities
which did in all pointes so far passe the vulgar sort, as the
white snow dooth exceed in beautie the blacke pitch. These
graces so abounding in Susania, haue so besotted Andrugio
his senses that he is driuen now to *non plus*, amazed which
vertue to commend as principall in her. As these cogitati-
ons beginning in him, so the feruent heat of loues passion
encreaseth in such sort, as there is no other pleasure to bee
had of him, but onely in commending the person, wit, and
condition of Susania: yea, now is his onely study how to
please

to Fortune,

please her, and his greatest care to make his love knowne
vnto her. Thus as a man of reason cleane bereft, he calleth
to mind his honorable descent: and then againe the base li-
nage of Susania, being no better by birth then the child of
a simple Miller, in whose companie he was at that season
resident which began to make him regard his nobilitie and
maieng the honorable house of Saxony. To take aduise how
by toyning in mariage wth a person so inferior to his estate,
might dishonour his progenie, & enbase his posteritie. But
Love who is now great maister of his affections, seeing
himselfe by reasons almost expelled, began againe to assault
him in such wise, as Susania, no none but Susania, faire and
most braue Susania, and the chiefe of humane creatures, his
onely attendant Susania.

In this passion, behold, his beloued hauing care of her
charge, entered the chamber with some daintie provided of
purpose for Andrugio: whom he no sooner beheld, but his
spirites with ioy died within him. whose strange passion
griued Susania at the heart to see him, whom with such
care she had nourished, when all dangers of his wounds
were passed, to be in so faint a case: his colour which erstwhile
was like the sanguin rose, is now pale and wan as the lily:
his breathing tronke ready to deliuer his last gaspe: Su-
sania carefull and diligent, noting the straungenesse of the
same, began greatly to maruell therat, suspecting her selfe
to be the cause of that griefe: like a kind phisition carefull of
her patient, rubbed his temples, and with her tender hande
stroked his cheekes softly, sprinkling on them sweete water
of roses distilled, and often with her tender lips would lend
him many a sweet kisse, bedewing his honny mouth with
her milke warme teares, in this sort bewailing the distres-
sed estate of Andrugio.

O heauenly Gods, by whose deuine powers all crea-
tures breath life, what heauy sinnes hath your handmaide
committed against your Deities, that for my sake you shew
vengeance vpon this weake creature, whom (as ye know) I

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haue with all diligence to my vttermost power releued, since his conning to this homely cottage of my poore father, in wh^{ch} I hoped to haue bin happy by my careful paines for his releefe, employed by your assistants for the recouery of his former health, in curing those grievous wounds where with his weak body was afflicted. If your cruelty be such in requitall of my charitable mind, or that your vengeance hath not bin sufficiently shewed to my charge: yet vouchsafe of your Goodheads, in whom it consisteth to pardon and punish, to take your heauie handes from this courteous Gentleman, whom you haue punished, and let him liue to be the comfort of many, which may be comfortlesse, and such your furie pour e vpon me, as may free this Gentleman from all displeasure whatsoeuer.

Andrugio conning to himselfe, and hearing a sound of lamentation, looking vp, saw before him y^e object of his life, and noting her blubbered cies, which shewed her heauines, and her cheekes bespemt with teares, moued to pitie her extremitie, not knowing it was for his sake, comforted her in this sort.

Susania the careful minister, next vnder the Gods, of my life, whose paines haue restored my wounded body, whose trauailes I cannot requite, thanks is the onely recompence I can make thee yet. albeit my desire is to perforce much more: but with that sacrifice of hartie thanks bee the Gods pleased. Then sweet Susania, no lesse in comfort to thy poore charge, then the Gods, except thou the same at his handes that greueth, yea whose soule lamenteth to behold thy waylings, of which I know not the cause: but if there remaine in thee that courtesie, as is commonly found in your sexe, participate with me of griefe, to the end I may to my power requite thee with comfort: for assure thee Susania, there is none vnder the globe of the celestiall firmament, where my heart hath such desire to honor as thy selfe. Therefore my dearest sustainer, if thou hast any assistance in thy charge, speake boldly as to thy selfe, imagining thou doost commit
the

to Fortune.

the secretes of thy sweet breast to thine owne heart.

The old Beldame hauing some want of her daughter, to be employed in her business, interrupting their speech by calling her with her shrill voice, caused them to leaue their parly for a time.

Susanna being gone (as dutie commanded) Andrugio began within himselfe to call to mind the courtesie, wisdom, and good gouernment of his sweet attendant, entering so far into the labyrinth of loue, as he is likely to loose himselfe, where reason could not suppress will, nor wisdom control affection: so much hath this lunatique fitte distempered his waines, which made him enter into these tearmes.

Why Andrugio, what fancie hath bewitched thee? art thou almost grown to mans estate, and art thou so little master of thy selfe? If thou do but gaze on a picture, must thou like Pigmalion be in loue with it? Canst thou not taste wine except thou be drunke with it? Hast thou not warmed thee without burning? Ah fondling as thou art, know this, fire is to be felt, not handled: the collour Argicke, popson by nature, may be caried in the hand, but eaten it is death: and beautie first ordained of the Gods to feed mans eye, not to consume the heart. Do not then as the simple fish, swallow the bait & will breed thy destruction: wade not too deep, vse beautie, but honour it not, vse it as a game for thy pastime, yet swallow it not. But fond foole, knowest thou not that Loue is feared of the wise a God, then by reason and dutie ought to be obeyed: Loue hath commanded the mightie, yea the Gods themselves, Iupiter disdainning Cupids power, resisted him, yet went by the worst, and yielded at length to his power. Iuno strave with Venus, yet was vanquished. Then strue thou not with a force so dangerous, least thou offend the Gods, and endanger thy selfe.

Can beautie be resisted which made the Gods to bowe? Cupid himselfe loued Phichas, and thinkest thou to bee of greater force? But what soundnes is this in thee Andrugio, to dandle thy selfe in such follies? Thou dost at thy com-

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ming from thy father pretend study in the famous citie of Siena, and dost thou now forget that the benefite is great which learning bringeth: Education is more meete for thee than loue: Foolish boy, how can the states of thy countrie thinke thee sufficient to gouerne them, that canst not rule thy selfe: It will be too much for thee to take so great a charge, which canst not master thy affections. Yet Andrugio, if thou wilt needs loue, vse it as men vse the seeing of Comedies on a stage for recreation, where when thou art weary thou mayest depart at thy pleasure. Then leaue to loue, but in this sort subdue thine affections: be master of thy mind, so maist thou laugh at Cupid and his fondlings, and say, thou wast in loue, what then?

He had scarcely finished these wordes with a sorrowfull sigh, when fortune that blind Goddess, and his sworn enemy hath brought Elanicus a young Noble of Saxonic, to the house of the Miller, bound by the command of the Duke to the citie of Siena to seeke Andrugio, of whome there came no newes at all to the court of his father since his departure. This Elanicus passing thorow the desertes, was warned by a swaine who he met, to shun the way wherein he rode, for that night approached, recounting vnto the a most cruell murder committed there by vpon certaine Gentlemen not passing three monethes before. This newes appaled the heart of Elanicus. For about the same time Andrugio with his companie departed: for which cause he entered farther talk with the swaine, demanding if he sawe the dead carcases of the slaine men: if he did, to recount vnto him their feature as neere as he might, with their apparell. To whom this swaine accomplishing his request, in rude manner describing at large to all his demands: the hearing of which so grieved Elanicus, that scarcely might he breathe. But remooued from his dunnys, he enquired how he came to the knowledge of this he had deliuered. Sir (quoth he) dwelling not far hence, a neighbor of mine came with him vnto the place where the murderers had left them: where

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where, by his paines, he recovered me proper Gentlemen, the rest being buried as well as we could. Friend (quoth Elanicus) sith it hath pleased thee, to acquaint me of friendship, with these tidings, and withall, warded me from falling into the hands of those rascals, I giue thee thanks. And if I may not be tedious vnto thee, that thou beest safe to bring me where this recovered man resteth, I will so satisfie thee, as thou shalt haue no cause to complaine of losing so much labour. Thus agreeing, the Swaine conducted him and his companie vnto the Miller, where Andrugio rested.

Elanicus hauing well rewarded the Swaine, bad him farewell, whose sodaine entring, the hōlle put Andrugio out of Loues cogitation. Elanicus meeting first with Susania, saluted her as the manner of his countrey, with courteous congies, beseeching the mayden of so great fauour, being a trauailer, and night growing on, for his money to haue entertainment.

To whome Susania, (whose womanly conditions more giuen by nature then education) answered. Gentleman, what you are I knowe not: But I vnderstand (good sir) the owner of this silly cottage my father, being from home, I may not boldly presume to giue entertainment to any, how willing soeuer I were to the same, for many causes: and especially, for that I doubt me greatly, you with your accomplices are they, which most vnchristianlike slaughtered the Gentlemen of Saxon, as they trauelled those desertes. Wherefore, whether you be the same or whatsoeuer you be, take not discourteously the words of a sillie mayden, but while you haue time, I beseeche you depart elsewhere to prouide you.

Elanicus doubting to haue the repulse, began to glorie with the mayden, being loth to depart without farther knowledge of Andrugio, and his companie: and therefore besought her to take pitie on his wearie carcase, worn with hard trauaile in searching for such Gentlemen of Saxon, as

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by her talke seemed to be dead, protesting unto her in most vehement oathes, that he was a stranger and born in *Saxonie*.

Andrugio, who had listened to their talke, hearing Elanicus to name *Saxonie*, was so rauished with suddaine ioy, as he might not stand: recouering himselfe, could not forbear the presence of his louing countryman, and companion, with whose speech he was sometime acquainted: but leaving his chamber, came to see him.

Andrugio no sooner entring the place, where Elanicus sate parlieng gently with the maiden, who might not in any cause be intreated to entertaine him; But being espied of Elanicus, his speech sodainly failed, and his tongue faikred in his mouth, he fell mainly on the shoulders of Andrugio, when passed his trance, he cried out: Ah my Lord, my louing Lord, what destinies haue brought you and your companie to these extremities: Are the Gods so vniust, that they will suffer your noble blood innocently shed, to goe vnrueged: Little knoweth the Duke your father of your hard mishap, yet doubting the worst, hath sent me to *Siena*, to know what moued you to keepe the tydings of your happy attual to the place of your desire, without writing unto him. But I see the Gods haue prevented your noble intent, by suffering your body grievously to be wounded, and your friends to rest in death. Accursed Fortune, who hath not better provided for you than thus, in the spring-time of your flourishing yeares, to be thus massacred. Yet thanks to the Gods that gaue you life: and thanks to your good Physicion, whosoeuer hee be, whome if I might knowe, I will in some sort requite as I may, though not as I would.

Thanks Elanicus for thy kindnesse. (quoth Andrugio) But happy had I bene if my life might haue accompanied my good friends, which it had done, if this my sweete Physicion (taking *Sufania* by the hand) had not bin, whose cares as they haue bene great to restore me to health,

So

to Fortune.

So will I neuer forget them, if the Goddess permit me life.

But my Lord (quoth Elanicus) what is your Lordshippes pleasure to doo? Dooth your strength serue you to bestride a horse: or shall wee make some provision of coach to conueigh you to the Court of your renowned father?

Ah, no my sweete Elanicus (answered hee) if thou loue me (as thy paines employed in aduenturing thy selfe for my safetie sufficiently witnesseth) counsell mee not to returne to my Fathers Court untill I haue spent some time in the famous Citie of Siena, to perfourme there, what my heart did desire long time before I obtained licence for the same. Therefore cease to take further cares for me: onely employ me with money for my necessarie vses, and returne with what speede you may to the Duke my father: This night shall you rest with me, where your cares shall not be dainty, but helic, cleanly, and welcome your principal dish.

Thankes good my Lord, (quoth Elanicus: but thinke you that I may obtaine that fauour at your commaund, which intreating for the same so lately, was so hardly expressed?

Susania intercepting *Andrugio* his wordes, answered, sir, blame not a fearefull maiden to doubt the worst, hauing too great a cause of late to bee warned: and to excuse my boldnesse, let my submission in the humblest wise make satisfaction for my fault, and vouchsafe to accompanie your noble countрман, to whom both the Gods and Fortune (in my opinion) haue done great wrong, and my selfe (a rude maiden) with my aged parentes haue highly offended, in not giuing him the dutie to his estate belonging. But I trust he will pardon the fault committed, sith he himselfe is the principall cause thereof, which would not make himselfe knownen but onely in this tytle, a Gentleman of Saxonie, yet to such provision as wee coulde make in this wilderness he was welcome, so is your selfe if you accept it.

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A million of thanks (curteous maiden) I render thee for thy kindnes to this noble man which he hath found, but knowen what he was, and therefore the more to be considered: What cause he hath to honour so good an attendant as you haue shewed to be, for swooping of flattery I omit.

Thus passing the night in ioy, recounting their olde friendship, the next morning early, as Andrugio gave directions, Elanicus leauing behinde him horse and money, he hasteneth with al speed to signifie unto the Duke what had happened.

Andrugio feeling now the extremities of his wounds to be passed, imagining the Duke would not suffer him farther to aduenture himselfe when tidings should be brought him of his perils escaped, and plight he remained in, not forgetting his affection towards Susania, whose desires the more he sought to suppress, y^e more his hart was inflamed in loue towards her: wherefore hee resolutely determining what to do, he waiteth opportunitie to disclose his loue unto her: which luckily was presently offered. For loe, Susania in the midst of these determinations, according to her ancient custome, came to see her patient: wherefore sitting al breath apart, taking his fit time, knowing well that secret sorrowes doo confound the senses, and that lingering in perill is the cause of many ensuing miseries, thus boldlie he began to batter the bulwarke.

Blush not Susania, that for thy graces, I tell thee I loue: For (Susania) Loue is in men, and therefore in me. Since therefore to stop the streamie dooth make the flood more fierce, and to suppress the flame dooth make the fire encrease: Can nomill the more it is trodden, the more it springeth: Wherefore Susania, fearing the flame of my affection shall consume my heart, know this, thy manifold vertues haue made such an impression in my heart, and the sweetness of thy feature so wounded me, that the blaze of the one and the bountie of the other hath broken the bulwarke of my

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my heart, where Loue aduanceth her Ensigne as conqueror
and keepeth my hart prisoner, neither will she deliuer but
only with this ranfome, Sufania her loue. Look there for
my drare Sufania vpon thy captiue, and as thou hast cured
the outward woundes of my bodie, minister that sweet por-
tion to my hurt which my heart desireth: that being healed
by the physike of thy affections, I may ioy in thee. Lookes
(men say) are the messengers of loue, and outward moti-
ons the beoayers of inward maladies: then cast thine eyes
vpon the countenance which doth manifest my care, and let
thy thoughtes penetrate the heart that doth endure calami-
tie. Deme, sweet Sufania of my loue as of the Salaman-
dar stone, which being once set on fire, will neuer be quen-
ched: or the Euerado which grareth all other stones, but
neuer loseth his collour: so likewise neuer determinable
shall be the loue of Andrugio to his beloued Sufania. Then
Sufania in right consider of my cause according to my care,
nothing besides thy bountie can procure my blisse, thy only
perfection hath increased my paine: then let thy pitie set free
my person from perill. The Porcupike that hurteth with
his quilles makes a salve with his blood, and Achytes speare
trieth an earnest effect of both natures: so likewise it lieth
in thee to apply the plaister that inferreth my paine, to mini-
ster such physick as may cure my maladie. Sith then my life
dependeth on thy loue, and my danger attendeth your spee-
die redresse, let your courtesie finish my care, and repay my
loue with his like.

Sufania, poore soule, neuer vled to those louing speeches,
and sweet wordes vttered by Andrugio, was mute to
heare so suddaine a motion: yet the thought of which tick-
led a sweet conceit in her, as a poppon shee coulde well
brooke, yet determining to shewe in full the nature of
the female sexe, began to spurne at that with her foote,
which willingly she coulde haue embraced in her heart, re-
sembling the hyde Oppes that hatcheth the Nightin-
gale, yet will feed on her egges, so dooth her heart secre-

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lyc reioise to thinke her selfe beloued of Andrugio: yet meaning to giue him a bitter pill, she ministreth to him this portion.

My good Lord Andrugio, I humbly bescech you of pardon for my harsh behauiour toward your Lordship passed: but gracious Lord, wherein hath Susana shewed her selfe at any time light of behauiour, that thus you goe about to intrap me to the lure of your will: if my dutie to my best, shewed in your weaknesse, breed lust in your recovering health, I will prouide a new nurse for you, and arme my selfe against the subtil piping of so cunning a Fowler. If your friendship be with your faining glazes to that end to bewitch such ignorant creatures as my selfe, I must needs get the herbe Glozia, a preseruatiue against that malady, and intreat your Lordship to bee content with an other attendant: for wisdom it is to beware in time, and warne, prouide to escape dangers. If your Lordship had bene before put in mind of the murderers waiting to kill you, I doubt whether you would haue aduentured the place wher they awaited you: therefore blame mee not to bee hereafter aduised how I come too nere you, and so farewell. Thus as it were in a litle chase she would haue departed, but Andrugio staid her, replied thus.

Sweete Susana, and louing, if thou tender his life, whome with paine thou hast nourished so long, doo pitie me which busiedly craue it at thy handes. Though Fowlers meane falshood, Andrugio is faithfull. What if many men haue pleaded for obtaining of lust the affections of Loue: yet blame not Andrugio till trial: if I bee false, then let the Gods poure vengeance vpon me, or when ANDRUGIO shall seeme to chaunge his amorous thoughtes of sweete Susana, the object of my life, let fire consume me from the heauen.

Enough of this my Lord, quoth Susana, except it were to better purpose, for your talke is to no end but to bring a
foole

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foole to your becke, or at least to see, whether my lightnesse were such as you suppose it.

Credite me Susania (answered this louing Lord) let my trueth make triall of my faith vnto thee: it is not lust but the pure single meanings of loue imprinted in my true heart. Therefore sweete comfort of my life, respect thy seruant which humbly seeketh thy grace, stand not on tearmes with me, if thou tender my life, my progenie which I haue concealed, is now by fortune reuealed, whereby thou shalt be assured it is no disparagement to thee, to preelme loue of my affection towarde thee, but granting it, shalt thereby increase the reputation of all thy ancestorie, whom for thy sake I will inuest with titles of calling, for the more honour to thee. I stand, Susania, vppon thornes, vntill I come to *Siena*, where my desire hath led me, for feare of being preuented by my father in calling me home againe: therefore resolueth thee and let me not languish for thy sake, whome thou mayest easily remedie.

Ah my Lord (quoth Susania) it is a principle amongst *Lappidarines*, that the smooth stones be soonest broken: amongst saylers, where the water is most smoothest, there liketh danger: the greenest grasse, hideth the most venomous serpent: the stone *Granio* loseth his vertue, if it be not continually rubbed with golde, powder is no sooner kindled, but it quenchet: mens affection may be compared to the *Fawcon*, that cometh to euery full fist, or to the spaniell, that will fawne vppon euery one that holdeth bread in their hand.

The stone *Quacius* freeseth within, when it fryeth without, and sighes may be fetched aswel from the loongs, as from the heart, teares bee wrong out of the fingers when men be disposed to faine: knowe you not that the new wrought deugh wil receaue any impression? Is it possible to take those birdes, that hath espied the twigges? no, no: the hawke will neuer be called to that lure wherein the penues of a *Camelion* are picked, for well I knowe that

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the *Theophrate* looking at the wolfe, is taken as a prey,
and the *Porcupike* stung on the flarres, is overtaken by
the dogges, too late comes had I wist, when follie bites
by repentance. Better it is to skip with the lambe, in the
sweete field in freedom, then to be companion to the grea-
test in marche in thraldom: which considered I neither can,
as being not gournour of my selfe, nor will peele my selfe
to that yoke which I cannot shake off.

Stay there *Sufania*, and giue me leaue to liue a while,
that am sure to die, when you pronounce denialet not par-
ticular examples proue a full conclusion, though some haue
bene false, all are not faultie, stones (I peele) are to be va-
lued by the vertue, not by the outward viewe. But *Susa-
nia*, thinke that stones may be better polished, then imper-
fected, and the defectes of nature, corrected by nature. An
Emralde, hath many pernicious properties: but set in gold,
is corrected by the vertue thereof.

Thou *Sufania*, cast aylie the comparisons: then assure
your selfe that the *Graneke* whiche is blacke peeldeth a
white iuice, and the *Teate* burneth best in water. Then *Su-
sania* commend the perfectnesse of the sunne, although
thou gaze at inferior planets.

Andrugio hauing thus clearly discoursed for himselfe,
with a deepe sigh scaled his faithfull sayings, in such sort
that the teares trickled downe her cheekes for sorowe to
heare him. Which perceaued by *Andrugio*, with many im-
bracings, and louing kisses enterchangeable giuen be-
twixt them, to both their comfortes, desiring pardon of
her Lord whome she was loth to offend, she leauieth him
with this hope, his courtesie should be remembered: so bid-
ding him adieu, betaketh her selfe vnto her lodging, where
being solitarie, the forces of Cupids affection began now
to flame in this birgine, that forced with the extremitie of
contrarie motions, subdued her heart with such repugnant
passions, that she sodainly fell into this processe.

Ah haplesse *Sufania*, what motions are these: whither
art

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art thou rouling with a self conceipt, captiuated by the lawes
of affection, proceeding from that blinded God Cupid, and
fast entangled in his labyrinth: O impatient disease of loue,
thou madnesse of loue, thyse vnpitiful, what strange malla-
die breedeth so great a martyrdom: what intollerable griefe
doth glut my desires: nay what desperate desire doth breed
such intollerable disease. Ah Andrugio, sweete Lord An-
drugio, yet blab not Susania, let thy loue hang at thy
heartes bottome, not at thy lippes bymmur: thinges vntold
are vndone, golde boyleth best where it bubbleth least. Yea
but the flame pressed down, it inforceth smoke: Loue that
is secretly kept, consumes in sorrow, and the fire of fancie
raked vp in silence, will both fire the senses, and shrinke the
sinewes. Ah but Susania, the *Griphen* neuer spreadeth his
winges in the sunne, hauing anie sicke fethers, and a may-
den snarde in loue doth shame to bewray the same: what
then shall Susania liue, and lose her beloued to whome she
is so deare, as his faithfull wordes, with piteous sighes,
bewrayeth: yea, but the *Cockidell* singeth moste sweetest
when he meaneth most subtiltie: the *Scorpyon* biteth moste
venomous, when he is least suspected: and may not An-
drugio, thinke I, put a dissembling visard vppon his fayre
face: But suspicious girle, what cause hast thou, to imagine
anie such thought of him, whose othes, made in the sight of
heauen and the Gods confirme his trueth. Blush therefore
Susania, at thy folly, and take heede in time, suppress
that fancie that maintaines this affection, for litle sparkes
may proue great flames, and small twigges growe to tall
Cedars. Loue is a Lord, who like an ambitious Caesar,
that is graunted a part, resteth not till hee dangereth the
whol possessiō. Knowest thou not y to loue, is to liue in losse.
Remember Susania, men be subtil, and full of deceipt,
Theseus was false, and Demophon faultie, else had Ari-
adne bene fortunate in her loue, and Phillis happie: but
what then, because some were faultie, is none firme: pause
there Susania, though snowe melt, flint is another sub-

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stance, gall is bitter, yet homie pleasant: therefore measure the condition of al men as they be, and conceiue of Andrugio, as of a noble Lord, whose wordes shewes truth, whose faith is firme. yea, but wretched Susania, who is noble, thou farre inferiour to him, whose parentes knowing the match, will disdaine him for my sake.

Looke not therfore so hie, least some danger befall thee, none gazeth in the sunne, but the Eagle. *Iccarus* presumed to mount into the ayre, but his climbing cost his life. Andrugio is no fondling, though thou wouldest. wherfore, content thee fondling, and rather die, then indanger either thy friend that loues thee, or thy owne credite, which will be crased, if it be but knowne the least sparke of thy loue to Andrugio, peoples toonges being so sharpened with slandered arrowes. Thus heauily without conspight, bewayling her hard fortune, that God has not made her a matche sufficient to linke with Andrugio, we leaue her to her sorowes.

Eugenia whiche hath rested little since his departure from the duke of Saxony, diligently searching Andrugio, whom he found as you haue heard by chance, is now arriued in the court of the Duke his mayster, vnto whome hee relateth the unhappie aduentures of Andrugio, with the death of his companie. This heauie newes bred great discontent in the heartes of all courtiers, yea there was not one that shed not teares for their dead companions, bitterly bewayling them, whome they are sure neuer to see againe liuing.

The heauinesse of the aged duke somewhat ouerpasse, carefull for his towardy sonne, aduising what is best for his welfare, hath determined, for auoyding of succeeding dangers, to post Elanicus again to the place, from whence he came, and with straight charge, not to suffer him to proceede farther in his iourney, which had bene so unfortunate vnto him.

With this commandement Elanicus is againe departed,

to Fortune.

ted, taking small ease untill hee came to the millers house, where he thought to haue found Andrugio: but for all his hast the bird was flowne ere he could returne. Andrugio hauing thorowly debated of his loue with Susania, is now concluded of the matthe, so that there is a mutuall loue, entered both their heartes, in somuch that one of them may not sorrowe without great grieffe to the other, that with much adoe he craueth leaue for a time to goe to Siena: thus hauing obtained his desire, recompensing his host for the charge bestowed, taking leaue of Susania, his deare beloved, he is departed towards Siena, leauing the poore maiden grieuouly lamenting his absence, whome neyther the gentle perswasions of the father, nor care of the mother may mitigate so effectually was loue in the hart of this sillie mayden, that neither distance of place, nor the threats of the parentes, whiche were many: coulde any whit preuaile, no there was not one day, houre, nor minute, wherein she did not with great aboundance of teares bewaile the absence of her Andrugio, in this sort.

Ah Andrugio, sweete Andrugio, let these droppes of hoke warme teares shed from the spring of myne ouerburdened heart, be messengers of my loue, and let my woefull plarunges shew the sort of thy poore Susania, Ah Andrugio thy loue hath pearced the fort of my true loue, and by prying thee, am I my selfe caught in that snare, which I feare hath so fettered me, as nought but deathe can lose me: Andrugio, sweete objects of my thoughtes, are the onely cause of my mourning, rest therefore in peace my dearest friend, and let thy faith remaine firme, play not the part of Theseus, now thou art departed, least worse betide me then Ariadne, Medea: her wretched miserie, procured through false Iason, may cause all of our sexe distrust men.

But peace Susania, the prating byrdes may declare thy hard opinion vnto thy Lord Andrugio, whiche beeing knowne, may giue him cause to abuse thee, cease therefore thy

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thy prating miserable wretche, and inioy thy ease in court, let thy sighes be messengers of thy good wil vnto him, studie to be pleasant with thy parents, to recouer their health unpayed for grieffe of thee, yea learne to be content in sorrow, though thy hart be wounded hope is a medicine most precious, then applie it, and dispayne not: Andrugio is honourable, faithfull, and kinde, whose teares spent in the bitterness of his sorowes, and many othes protested, to cause me graunt him fauour, I am sure shall neuer be violated, wherefore wretched Susana, rest thee content in this hope for a time: when thou shalt heare more of thy best beloued Andrugio, with this falling into a sweete slumber, ease to her grieved heart we leaue her.

Time hath brought Elanicos vnto the place where hee supposed to haue found the Lord Andrugio, who doubting that which ensued, loth to be detained from his desire, is now gone to Siena, whose departure Elanicos bewyleth, accusing him of ingratitude to his friend, disobedience to his father, whose fauour he no more esteemed, but to add more sorow vnto his aged hart through this his departure against all promises at their last taking leaue eche of other. Elanicos hote on the spurre to see Andrugio, and to bring him to the duke, maketh short stalle, but departeth neuer resting vntill he had found him in the beautifull City of Siena, vnto whome having deliuered the pleasure of his father, Andrugio reuereth this answer.

It is not vnknewe vnto thee, my sweete Elanicos, what earnest suite I made before I obtained grant of my father, for this iournie, and how long before he would consent to the same: wherefore, my good friend, let it not seeme any thing discontent vnto thee, that I refuse to heare thy message and obey it, I trust my father knowing before this my minde will be the better satisfied, and pardon my presumption for this offence in breaking his commandement: for doubtlesse, resolved I am not yet to returne, vntill I haue seene the manners of this honourable place, so much

commen

to Fortune,

common in all princes courtes.

Elanicus when he heard Andrugio his mēor, and saw that it was as easie to rarie backe the whole citie, as disswade him being there, was sorrowfull at the heart, yet hoping to perswade him, replieth.

Gracious Lord, how tender your welfare is unto me, my soule beate witness, neither will Elanicus ever offer to speake, but for thy benefite: mooved thereto by zeale and dutie both to the Duke and you. Stand not therefore (Andrugio) upon these termes of disobedience to your fathers command, for the bearing of your contrarie answer, how kinde soever, will cost his life: pea, the very remembrance of your disobedience, whom hee so carefully loveth, will bring his white head with sorrow to his last home. Again, my gracious Andrugio, if nature and the Gods call him to the heauens, where all our hopes be to rest, you being absent, in what estate shall your country stand? Souerainie is a wild woyme, and such a bait as will make many aspiring minds in the absence of their Soueraigne to reuolt, especially they being of power, when once for feare of tumultes planted in thy countrie they be not easly displaced: so maist thou be reason of thy gouernment, and by treason unhappily done to death. Again, thy father hardly digesting thy harsh demeanour, may disinherit thee, and so leaue thee to thy fortune. Many other casualties there be, more then the sorowes of my heart will permit me to utter: let it therefore suffice that my words spoken of the tender zeale of my heart may remooue thy fond determination, so maist thou keepe the good will of thy father, preserve his life, and enioy thy countrie and friends. Teares would not suffer him to speake what he had to say: wherefore constrained, he ceaseth his parlie.

All the speeches Elanicus could vse, was bootlesse, neither was his counsell regarded more, then of a childe which hath no vnderstanding. So bent was this ro't to take his race for a time, and therefore besought Elanicus to per-

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left from perswading him farther, for he was resolved not to returne suddainely, if all the kingdoms of the earth lay thereon.

Elanicus faithfull to his Lord and maister, and kind to Andrugio, when as he perceiued how hee was beat, and that it was as easie for him with the Osterich to swallowe iron, or w his nailes to crash hard flint, as with his wordes to win him to his desire and cause him to returne: with a heart as heaue as Hero for losse of her Leander, after hee had uttered in milde tearmes his faithfull minde, taking leaue of Andrugio, returneth to the court of Saxony, leauing him to his owne will for a time.

Who in the vniuersitie hath planted himselfe to studie, and was in short time growen into great familiaritie with diuers young gentlemen: amongst others, with whom hee bled daylie to frequent, Galastina, sonne vnto the Duke of Millaine, and he became most conuersant, from whose companie (so mutuall was their loue, and their liking so great one to the other, that they might neuer bee sundred, night nor day. No, neuer was the loue of Damon to his Pithia, nor Pylidies to his Orestes more firme then Andrugio to his Galastina, for one heart vniteth them, and one purse they bled betwene them.

But yet absence, which is the greatest enemy to his former desires, being so far sundred from his Susania, hath not power to put her out of minde, but euer in the midst of his mirth would he call to mind his deare loue, and often with a sigh rehearse her name, saying, Susania, sweete and constant Susania. So often he bled this, so that in the end Galestina desirous to knowe what dame shee was of whom by day he talked so much, and in the night dreamed of, was so unfortunate on him, as hee might not hide the flame no longer, of which to greate smoke was scene, and therefore Galastina brake with him on this maner and fashion.

Andrugio, now my second selfe, whose welfare I esteem

to Fortune.

seeme as mine owne, and according to the dutie of a friend, regard thy friendship as my life.

I haue noted euer since thy coming to Siena, amongst all thy myrrh, how suddainly it hath bene overshadowed with sighes and fantasticall speeches tending to loue, as thy passion describeth: If it be so my Andrugio, thou art entered into the most intricate labyrinth that can be, and such as exceede the capacite of men to conceiue, such a worne is it, as I greatly feare thy health: yea, and without content shortly thy life. For doubtlesse to loue is not tollerable especially, where the loue is absent. Besides, it hath many defectes, as if thy loue be settled on a Dame full of disdaine, who regardeth thee not. If shee be poorer then thy degree doth require, then is she lothsome to thy kindred, how pleasing soeuer she be to thee. Loue they say is a commander, and of the common people termed a God, & honored with glorious tytles, yea, some are so besotted in planting their loue, that they reape for their best fruit endlesse misery, or preuent it by vntimely death, from which the Gods preserue thee my Andrugio.

But sweet friend, if thou wilt be aduised by him who is as deere in respect as mine owne heart, listen as little to Venus allurements, as I doo to Cupids flateries, so shalt thou haue no cause to say the Gods be vniust, nor women cruel!: for I thinke of Loue, as Gnato the Grecke did, who was wont to say, that of all plagues wherewith mortall men are afflicted, loue was the greatest, for that they earnestly desired that for their comfort, which they founde their mortal death.

Andrugio hauing listened to Galastina his oratiō could not well tell how to digest his speech, yet after a small pause taken, answered.

Why Galastina, doost thou count it madnesse to loue, or him besotted that peedeth vnto affection? Knowest thou not or art thou so fond as not to know, that Loue is deuine, and can command by his power? Who subdued the heartes

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of invincible warriors, who no force could withstand, no force withstand, and who subdued the whole world but love? Alexander, Hercules, Scypio, and many others have subjected them to love. Therefore thinke not as the Greekes did, that love is a plague, least thou die an heretike, beleue hee is favoured of the Gods that is an happy Lover.

In faith no (quoth Galastina) for I count him most unhappy which is in love most happy.

Why then Galastina, thou thinkest him unhappy that loveth.

O yes (quoth he) I should thinke amisse. Should I thinke him happy, which for one penny of coyne received at his neede, shall lie shut up in prison all dayes of his life? Or for one dramme of prosperitie, reape a whole pounce of miserie? Shall I esteeme him happy in love, whose golden gaine procures leaden griefe? No, that is neither pleasure which is interlaced with paine, nor that happiness which turnes to losse.

Why then Galastina (quoth Andragio) dost thou thus blaspheme against Cupid and his sweete mother: and esteemeest thou so lightlie of love, which is so great a commander?

Because (quoth hee) it is Love, and is such a popson, which infecting the mindes of men, entreteth as pleasant as Nectar the drinke of the Gods, but procureth more hytter than the ioyce of wormewood: for as the Siren mayde bewitcheth hearers with her sweete musike, untill they be lulled asleepe therewith, and so they fall into some danger. So amorous lovers have their senses besotted with the franticke passions of this Idoll Love, that they account not the selfe happy, but in their most unhappiness, being at most ease in their disquiet: at greatest rest when they are most troubled, seeking their pleasure in care, hunting continually after that, that bringeth enowles harme and destruction unto them, as I have many examples

David

to Fortune

David and Sampson, in holy writ, Hercules, and Leander in prophane histories, and many more which I omit, wishing thee, my good Andrugio (if thou desire the fauour of so poore a friend as my selfe and thine owne quiet) to persist from loue otherwise, it will breede thy confusion.

This is your harsh sentence Galestina: but die not herein neither stand long vpon those tearmes, for if you doe, *Venus* is angry at your blasphemie, will endite you as an hereticke, both to nature and her selfe, and so plant you one day, for you disdaine in loue, as you shall haue cause to lament, whilst you leaue your hard fortune: but for this time I am content to giue ouer this argument, least that my follies in playling loue, as thou sayest, should make the more earnest in enuying against that sweete goddess, & so cause thy punishmentes to fall the sooner. For Ladies by kinde, the more they are grieved, the sooner they seeke reuenge of their enemye; of which number *Venus* accompteth the one to her Godhead.

My speerches, Andrugio, is no more then my heart thinketh, as should be apparant, if that foule goddess (as thou tearmest her) were present: so I doubt least her forces in loue, so inflict me with hauing aduaies reason, which shalbe of force sufficient to expell from my heart, that franticke humour loue, in despite of the goddess, and her blind loue. But least we being friends become foes throu this sound argument, we will for this time cease our party.

The fire of loue, raked in the heart of Andrugio, began now to flame, insomuch that his onely care was how to attaine the sight of his beloued Susania, as well to satisfie at full his minde, which often doubted of her welfare, as also to participate with her, in familiaritie.

Therefore, after many determinations, which way he might with mooste credite accomplishe the same: thowoly now resolued, without taking leaue of his friend Galestina or acquainting other with his pretence, hearing of a small barke, which was readie to passe from Siena neere where

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his loue sojourned, he secretly imbarqueth him for the same journey. But see howe this cruell enimie fortune enuying the towardnesse of this braue Gentleman, commaunding Eolus as her vassalle, when as this barke was mid seas, of the port of his desire, pleasantly cutting the silver waues with a gentle gale, and ech man for his recreation betakes himselfe vnto those pastimes, best him liked, for the beguiling of time, sodainly might they heare a greuous blustering of wind, which came of a mayne tearing & waues before it, in which cruel tempest, & split of their maine saile, strooke ouer boord their maine mast, and with much adoe by the prouidence of him that preserueth all, and the good industrie of their comfortable maister, they escaped the danger of drowning. A whole night thus spent in meditation to God for their deliuerie, no sooner came the dawning of the day, when their watche espied a saile, and called vnto the companie for ioy, hoping of some comfort, they man to their ship eche one censuring what the shippe should be: at length they might perceauie, though a farre off, her ordinance all made readie and put out, as if shee were presently minded to fight, this beeing perceaued, the maister called his companie together, acquainting him what he thought, and besought their counsels in the cause if neede should be, whether they should fight, or yeald vnto their mercy. These speeches of the maisters appalled wonderously the companie, so that sodainly they might not answer to his demand: At length Andrugio, as one shewing by outward signes, the noblenesse of his heart, when hee had long expected the answers of the companie, began to say.

Louing maister, whose courage sheweth you to be a man able to gouerne your charge, in whome nowe vnder God dependeth our welfare, or receiue what danger soeuer happen, God and your helpe withall, we will be partakers with you: if they be friendes, let vs intreate their fauour, for our reliefe in this extremitie, for that we need it, if they contrary to our expectation abuse vs, euery man resolueth to
die

to Fortune.

He rather then submit our selves to such he knowe not my selfe, albeit young, and neuer haue tried the force of my shafte ioynted at ones, shall by industrie encourage the rest of you to doe your endeavour. An honourable death is alwaies to be preferred before an ignominious life: resolve therefore with me, a maister, whose charge we are all vnder God, sweare euery man to that is sayd, so shall we be sure euery man for himselfe, to performe what you pretend.

Then maister noting the courage of Andrugio, whose feminine face shewed him fitter for a chamber, then a field, comming vnder his forwardnesse, imagining with himselfe, that albeit he took not vpon him the worthinesse of his birth; yet claimed the place fitting his degree, yet doubtlesse was descended of some noble progenie. And in quitall of his valour shewing, to make him ad more courage to his invincible heart, he elected him their captaine, commanding all the companie to vse him accordingly, and to be ruled by his directions, of whome hee was perswaded to be valiant, discrete, and well gouerned.

Andrugio called to this honour, bethought him of his charge, which vntwillingly hee had receaued by the importance of the maister & his companie, yet as the shortnesse of time would permit him, gaue directions more fitter for an olde captaine, then a nouelle following the counsell of such ancient souldiers, which he had read, to the great admiration of his companie, and incouragement of them all.

By this time their enemies, (as they proued to be) were within hayling, where a couple of desperate villaines, not regarding the miseries of those distressed creatures, whose ship they saw so beaten with fortunes stormes, in the top of their ship waued the with their bright sword amain, their Trumpets sounding likewise defiance vnto them, bearing still vpon this distressed companie which were not a little greeued to see that offered vnto them, fearing greatly that which after happened.

Andrugio, our young captaine, when he perceiued their
f intentes,

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intentcs, knowing their forces to be weakc, and not able without the prouidence of God to withstand them, it ought it most fittest to put in pꝛooꝛe the pollicie of which they had determined then to fight it out with handie strokes, pꝛswading himselfe of the best, commaunded all the companie to bestowe themselves vnder battises, and with those fewe, small shot they had, and other hand weapons as theye bording to apply vpon aduantage their pꝛiue fights, placing in diuers corners vnder their deckes, barrells of powder, readie to fire if neede should be, and so to procure the end of their enemies with their own, by blowing them ouer boꝛde.

The accursed pirate, being come within shot, discharged a minion vpon them, mauler their shippe with those rake-shames they had aboard, whose grisly looks shewen them like deuils, so blacke and bogie were their countenances with long keeping the seas; that for all this Andrugio, would not permit any of his companie to appeare, but onely himselfe, and one more, wꝛ two with him to helpe to take in such small sayle as they had, as presently they did.

By which, the Pirate assured him of the ship with such goods as was in her: Thus making all speede they might, as desirous to knowe what they were, and what wealth they had, making no reckoning to be resisted, grapted their ship with the vnfortunate barque of Andrugio, and desperately entred, doubting nothing of that which happened. When Andrugio sawe them all aboard, by giuing his watchword to the ambush vnder the forecassle, they presently gaue fire to their powder: the force of which, caried both decke and men ouerboꝛd: The Pirates misinued at this suddaine mischiefe, were wonderfully perplexed: yet as men dreading neyther God nor deuill, they pꝛsist in most terrible in their actions, threatening vengeance to Andrugio, who gaue his other signe and blew up both mast and all the waste of the ship, whereby he was almost rid of his
bad

ton Fortune.

had guesse. Having spent in this sort all their powder, and his ship freed from those oppressing villaines; when they thought themselves sure, and to have laid aboard the Pyrates ship, with such men as he had in his companie, an other small Pinnisse waiting on this ship had recovered the, which for sometime was in long time seene, and approaching neere the Barke of Andrugio; seeing so small stirring, made reckoning that their confortes were rising their pile, and desirous to have part of what they should finde, stood not demanding questions, but boarded them also: in the entering of which, Andrugio slew their Captaine, to the terror of his enemies which looked for no resistance. But all in vaine was their proceedings, for his men with blowing the powder were either sore hurt or slaine, so that perforce he was compelled to yield himselfe. Those villaines now being master of this weather beaten Barque, and saw what spoils those small companie had made, their companions were greediously bered, and greatly threatened Andrugio with bitter tormentes for his valour shewed against them, and especially for the death of those Captaines their gouernours.

Andrugio thus in the handes of those people, of whom he earnestly besought fauour could hardly be permitted life, such was their crueltie in reuenge of their Captaines death whom they lost in boarding Andrugio his Barque: they had examined to be the cause of their resistance, was more then for all the rest: yet as greene as their furie was, behold when as many tormenting deathes and most bitter were called to minde, and none thought bitter enough for him, pitie moued the heart of one gracious fellow of some account amongst them, to compass on, who noting the milde countenance of Andrugio, and considering his valour, earnestly besought his company for his sake, to forbear the execution of their crueltie towards him in bereauing the life of this young prince: which with much ado was granted him.

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Thus at the intercession of those companions Andrugio his life preferred to greater extremities, for sweetest death benevnto him, if they had shewed their cruelty then life, for that he was marked in his birth unfortunate as the stone shall shew you.

Well, those cursed treacherous most violently handled such as remained alive in the ship, commanded Andrugio to be as hardly interceded as might be, oppressing his body with cruel afflictions, so much for any to endure, yet could his noble mind never stoop to interceat for pardon: albeit they should haue carued his flesh from his bones with their meate knives, or with hot pikes have nipped the faine away. To which his valiant courage, his ancient friend that had saued his life, gaue good notice, and vied his case, but could not redress him, neither shew any more fauour: vntill the Gentleman then he did, yet as opportunity was offerd when his racking companions were at play, or other were busied, he would visite him, and comfort him as well as hee could.

But so long continued, this good cheefe his familiaritie towarde him, that in the ende Andrugio confessed vnto him, of what parentage he was descended, and how foraine in this time of his youth had continually dealt with him, omitting nothing: whiche lamentable oration of his overheard, with promise made, when God should to send them to any harbor to release him, It was presently carried to such as was chiefe amongst them in commission, for as yet they had appoynted no captaines of their ships.

The reporter of this newes had skarsly finished his tale, when furiously and in great rage they commanded Andrugio and his friendes to be brought vnto them: the miscreantes defcating the meane while, of such cruelty as they should both receaue.

No sooner came these unhappie men before those mercilesse bloodsuckers, bent to begin their tormentes, they caused them to be hoisted to the yard arme, and so drencht
in

in the seas, at which their miseries they tooke exceeding delight: By this this time to aggrauat their misery they had deuised to strip them naked, and euery man with a cordes end as they passe them, turning round the capstone to deale such strokes vpon their bare carkasses as they could wth pite of heart, either for crueltie of encreasing their paine, bestow on them: or of compassion fauour them. But the Gods that p^{re}ld comfort in extremitie, looking on those afflicted persons, p^{re}serued them from this punishment: For behold, as they were in strapping them, they espied a fleet of Gallies at sea, which in the calme made such speede to them as they might not escape by any meanes: wherefore they commanded Andrugio with his companion to the bilbowes, & themselves to determine for defence against their enemies, whom they might easily perceiue; now pretending to haue some saing to them, and to repay their bloody tyrannie v^{se}d, with the like.

Time hath brought those discried fleet within litle more then a league, so that they might easilie discern them to be Gallies belonging to the gouernours of Trypolie, of which place those villaines had wronged many, and therefore their feare began the more to encrease, doubting that if they fell into their handes, as they did not know howe to withstande them, their crueltie v^{se}d to others would be repaid: wherefore like friends that in many mischies had ventured together, they resolutely determine to die and liue together, and so preparing themselves with those fewe, Andrugio had list them, to be in readinesse, ordering their fightes with the best pollicie they could: they scanty had finished what they would haue done, when a cannon shot commung from one of those Gallies, stroke their maine mast by the boord, and so beat their ship with shot, with the losse of diuers of their companie, that in vaine they resisted: wherefore spreading their flag of truce in their mislen top, They committed themselves to mercie of those, with whome there is no mercie at all,

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When the smoke of the peeces was cleared, and that they saw there came no more shot from the ship thinking before they had lost her: espying their flag of truce, the Captaine of the Viz-admyrall commanded the Helms-man to fall too and boord her, where finding those braue mates that had spoiled many, now in this conflict to stand as mute as silly sheepe before a wolfe, intreating hardly for their liues which could not be granted them, yet bound backe to backe, they left them lying on the hatches, vntill they had ransacked the Shippe, searching in euerie corner, and tooke the spoile.

Where finding our comfortlesse ANDRUGIO, and his pitifull companion, miserable wronged in those yron Fetters, taking them to bee prisoners to those cruell and bloody Pyrates, and such as had bene wronged by them, commaunded that they should be released from their captiuitie, and to be brought before the Admirall, which was presently done.

Andrugio for all the tormentes hee had bene afflicted with, could not bee compelled to make himself knowne: but being by the Admirall examined, what he was, and how hee fell into their hands: told him that hee was a passenger in a small Barque whom they had spoiled both of goodes and men, and that none of his companie remained aliue, but himselfe only.

The Admirall noting the courage of the prince, commanded that he should be brought with his fellow prisoner aboard his owne Gallie, requiting the crueltie of the rest as they had deserved: for being bound backe to backe, heaued ouerboard, ending their liues in blood as they had liued. Having taken such spoiles as those Pyrates had aboard, they fired the shippe and fell to the Sea, seeking more adventures.

Having thus some leysure to debate of thinges passed, the Generall called to munde Andrugio and his mate, who were not a little grieved to thinke what miserie they were like

to Fortune.

like to come to being faine into the hands of those mercilesse and unhallowed people of whome there was no hope of fauour at all.

As the generall commanded, they were brought before him, of whome he diligently inquired of what countrey they were, and how they chanced to their hands, who kept them captiue. To whome Andrugio saying of fauour, declared that he was borne in the Duke of Saxons countrey and being a student in the vniuersitie of Cefilia, as he was minded to see his father being a poore gentleman of that countrey, was surprised with those pyrates, which had dealt with them, and his companie, as himselfe had before heard.

The generall for his owne part hearing him make his lamentable complaint, might well haue shewed himselfe a pitifull gentleman, and haue released Andrugio. But fortune hailing on n oze miseries vpon him, the onely author that must plaie her miserable comedies: gaue notice to the captaine of another Gallie, who was a valowed enemy to the Duke of Saxonie, and all his countrey, which came presently a board the Admirall, and begged him for his prisoner, which might not be denied, carrying him away from his friendly companie to his more grieffe, and chayned him with the foremost oze, next his cabine, that hee might haue the ouerseeing of his labour and punishment himselfe, of whom this misercant tooke no compassion at all, But ioyed when he saw the Booteswayn, bestow his cruel almes with a ropes end on his naked skinn: yea and often would cause him without any cause to be greuously beaten: thus the space of one whole moneth indured this poore prince: bys captaines rigour, at which times greuous stormes opposed the whole flecte of Gallies, that they were enforced to put into harbour, and hardly escaping the perill of drowning, yet recouering with much trouble their desired port, the captaine not vnmindfull of Andrugio, commanded him a shoue, and where the other slaues had libertie, commanded him to be shut close within a most darke and lothsome dun-

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gion, into the which entered no maner of light, where hee
sorrowed and sighed moste lamentably, exclaiming on for-
tune, and cursing the time wherein he first made motion of
parting from his princely father, which found him dearer
then his own life. Thus foure moneths (too long a time for
people in suche extremitie) passed in serable Andrugio in
most grieuous aduersitie, hauing scarce clothes to hide his
secretes of nature, and no other sustinance, but the great
boulking of barly meale, mingled with water, which was
not all times of the best, yet in the midst of all whiche mis-
erie, Cupid a confederate, with his sworne foe fortune, be-
gan to remoue his thoughts with that fresh remembrance,
of his dearest and most beloued friend Susania, for whose
sake in going to see her, more dearer then his life vnto
him, his miserie began: the remembrances of whome in
the extreamest anguise of his miserie, bredde suche sweete
comfort, that there was no houre, yea sleeping or waking
wherin he ceased to call vpon the name of his deare mistres
and comforte of his life Susania, sometime exclaiming on
fortune for her crueltie against him, other while, making his
orisons, to Venus for fauour, that by the vertue of her god-
head, she might so worke with her some Cupid, & where
it should please the giuer of all comforte to free him from
that captiuitie, he might once inioy the sight of his so long
desired Susania.

So thus passing his miserie in the most patientest sort
that hee might, the omnipotent Creator to shewe thereby
his glorie, and to make Andrugio feeble the fauour of his
sweete and gracious hand, when this filchie dungion, the
place of his miserable lodge, had so weakened his corpes,
with short diet, and moste lothsome funels, and that past
hope of euer seeing anie creature, but the barbarous hard
hearted and pittilesse villaine his iaylour, loe there, behold
how sweete a comforte on the sodaine vnspected vnto him
happened.

The Emperours daughter, Princes Guyrdania, wh
was

to Fortune,

betrothed vnto the Barbarian king, accompanied with manie states of great honour, with the kinges of Denmarke, and Sweathland, who for honour of the mariage, as also for the ease of the aged Emperour, accompanie this princes, were all by weather most greuously seabeaten, and the ship where the two kinges and princes were, hardly escaped the danger of splitting.

But after this moste gricuous storme, putting into the port of *Tripolia*. They had no sooner anchored their shippes, but presently they dispatched ambassadors to the gouernour, making themselves knowne vnto him, with intreatie, for the princes, who hardly brooking her last danger, surprised with the feare of death, and weake with their long beating at sea, was verie euill at ease, for whom their desire was, to haue entertainment.

This knowne to the gouernour, no lesse courtesie, then honourable, he assembling the chiefeest captaines, & Burgurs of the Citie, and with their moste conuenient speede prepared themselves towardes that place of the harbour where this wearie beaten shippe anchored, when shewing themselves on the shoare in the sumptuous maner they could vppon so short warning, they dispatche Embassadors to the kinges, willing him to declare their pleasures vnto them in this sorte.

That whereas they had so hardly escaped the danger of shipwracke, and by Gods prouidence vnerpected of them, had fortun'd into that place, a Citie farre vnable to giue such entertainment, as there estates required, yet howe welcome they were vnto them, as vnto the subiects of their gracious soueraigne, and their highnesse friendes to their vtmost power it should be showane. And farther, that they being principall vnder their soueraigne, attended with reuerend duetie their highnesse comming to the shoare, to conduct them vnto their lodgings, which in the best maner was preparing for their entertainment.

When the Embassador had declared this answere
from

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from the gouernour. The two kinges were glad thereof, expected the same with thanks: and giuing order for the landing of their traine, with such necessaries as was aboard of prouision, they besought the princes to be readie with them, to goe a shoare, where these honourable and worshipfull gouernours of the saide Citie, attended their coming, with all their ladies in their coaches, to welcome the Princes, at whose meeting, the courteous welcomes, with the fauourable thanks returned from these princes, I omit: but with great honour and welcomes from all estates, as well the poore as the best, they were conueyed to their lodging, which was in the kinges owne pallace within the walles of the same Citie, where reposing themselves, I leaue them to their solace for a time.

When these noble princes, had ouer passed their weary toyle and hard trauaile without some ease taking, then began the nobles of this Citie, to deuise some pastimes, as well to recreat their mindes, which were giuen to melancholicke for losse of their shippes, of whome they heard no newes: amongst which, the captaines gathering theyr men together, rigged and furnished a dosen gallies and pinnasses to the sea, with intent to shewe their maner of fight and sea skirmishes, to which seruices, was Andrugio and his fellow pyrate called, to take their places at an oportunitye, as before they had done.

When all thinges was prouided for this pastime, the princes hauing taken place to beholde the same: in which fight after a little time, the gally wherein Andrugio was, being by another taken, his captaine, as well to shewe what extremitie they vsed to those they vanquished, as to grieue the body of Andrugio, caused him to be stripped, and most greceously to be whipped, and after, by the armes with two great waies at his toes, hanging, to be drawne vp to the pard arine, where, when he had hanged, that all men pitied him sauing his mercilesse captaine, at the crie of the people was at length let downe. But to agrauate still his extreame griefe,

to Fortune.

griefe and torment of body: the Captaine (as one bent to seeke his utter destruction, prouided yet a more greater torment both bytter and cruell: for loe, when time had brought their pastimes to end, This mercilesse tormenting Captaine, inuited all the Captaines to a banquet aboard his Gallie: at the end whereof, he caused Andrugio to be cald in the raw hide of a new slaine wolfe, which with the ship: dogges from euery Gally, baited him beastlike, in such manner, that they had like to haue wearied him, sometimes tearing his armes and legges, other while the other partes of his bodie, which crueltie of the dogges, being poore Andrugio, bred such content to the barbarous villaine, that his heart was more ioyed with the sight thereof, than if hee had receiued a noble victorie against his enemies: such deadly hatred had the cruell tyrant conceiued against Andrugio.

At this banquet there chanced to bee a noble man of the traine of the Princesse Gurdania, whose heart pitieng Andrugio so much that he could not endure the sight of his extremities: but turning his head from that which the barbarous people tooke delight in, he secretly enquired what hee was that was so hardly vsed aboue the rest of those slaues. these questions of the noble man was demanded by chance of þe pyrate before taken with Andrugio, who being a faire wellspoken man, and of good demeanour, recounted at large vnto this noble man Andrugio his tormentes, & besought him, that as he was a gentleman, to take compassion on his miserie, and buy him for money, or by some other meanes to worke his deliuerie: for that if he remained amongst them, this would euery day be their vse vntill God by death shal thinke good to end his sorowes, albeit hee was in his Countrie a Gentleman of good name and honorable reputation.

The noble man moued with pitie and compassion at the Pyrates ruthfull tale, thought euery minute of an hower a day, vntill he might come to the presence of those two

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kinges and the Princesse, which he might not do that night: Therefore in the morning awaiting earnestly to bring his desire to effect, he was brought before them, unto whom he recounted the grievous sight he had scene, and how much it troubled his minde, and grieved his heart to thinke that ever Chyistian should endure such miserie. Where, in the most earnest manner that hee could, besought the Princesse and the Kinges of Denmarke and Swethland to procure his freedome, either by treatie, or for ransome, at his charge, so what somme soever it amounted.

The princes hearing this dolefull discourse, moved to pitie his miserie, sent for the gouvernour, and besought him, that as their welcomes had bene great, and their entertainment exceeding, so they might craue his friendship in a suit they had to impart unto him.

The Gouvernour glad to content those princes with all the fauours he might, did not only by his word assure what they desired, but deeply sware they should obtaine what they craved: holding himselfe highlie in their fauour, that they would demaund any thing that lay in him to performe, beseeching to know what their suit was.

The princesse thanking him for his kindnesse, and fauor, told him that their suit was for the libertie of a slave, a poore man, and what ransome hee would demaund, he should haue with thanks.

My gracious Lords (quoth the Gouvernour) not one, but all the prisoners and slaves in this place shall bee at your highnes command: and therefore I humbly beseech you to let me knowe his Captaines name, and the person, and hee shall presently be sent for.

The noble man whose desire was to haue Andrugio his libertie, very glad to heare his suite growe to so good effect, gaue thanks to the gouvernour, describing unto him what he was, and in what Gally, but his name he could not remember, which by the especiall notes giuen, was well knowne unto the Gouvernour, who with all speed dispatched
one

to Fortune.

one of his seruantes for Andrugio, commanding that hee should be brought vnto his lodging, which presently was accomplished. Whom when the gouernour saw, he demanded of what calling and countrey he was, and how long hee had serued in their Gallies. To whom Andrugio answered: by byth (noble Lord) I am a Saxon, of reputation a Gentleman, and passing the seas, was most vnfortunatly taken prisoner by the flecte of Gallies that last serued against the king of Spaines forces. This fourtene moneths haue I endured most miserable seruitude and grieuous punishments by my vnnmercifull and rigorous Captaines command.

When the Generall had heard him, commaunded his man that he should be cloathed in a faire suite of apparell of his owne, and so presented him to the Princesse, vnto who he was verie acceptable:

Thus when Andrugio by the appointment of the Gods had remained a while at libertie, and that the princes had well reposed themselves, prouision was made for their departure vnto the Barbarian King, of whome they were expected long, by reason of some of their fleet arriuing in his countrie. all things being ready for them, a faire gale blowing, they take their leaues of the Gouernour, whome they reward with great and bountifull presentes, with much courtesie and thanks for their royall entertainment, the which they bowed should neuer be forgotten. And so bidding them farewell they imbarqued themselves for their pretended iourney, with whom also departed Andrugio, attending vppon the Lord Ieronymy, who had released him.

Thus by the prouidence of the hiest, Andrugio was from the miserie he endured deliuered, and in great fauour of the Lord Ieronymy his maister, vnto whose gouernment hee committed all his affaires, who so well behaued him selfe, that he was in great account of his Lord and louing maister.

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Their businesse and honorable marriage of the Emperours daughter accomplished, and the kinges with their traines safely retourned to their owne countrie, Andrugio highlie in fauour of his Lord, gained so the loue of all the people, that none of the retinue of his Lord, was helde in such account of all estates, as well of Nobles and Gentlemen of the countrie, as the inferiour sort. It fortuned, this Lord Ieronymie hauing one onely sister, wise, beautifull, and well gouerned, hearing such generall commendation of Andrugio, and amongst the rest her brother so highly to commend him in all places, and at all times, so that his common talke was euer to the credite of Andrugio, which noted in the yong ladie Messelua, (for so was she called) her affection began to encrease towards him in such wise, that from a small sparke, the fire of fancie began to grow to a great flame, and her chiefe and onely delight was in beholding of her best beloued Andrugio: yea, her thoughtes were so settled vpon him that in the night she dreamed of him, and in the day he was neuer out of her remembrance, in so much that this passion increasing, she began to growe into great extremities, euermore deuising what meanes she might best worke to make her loue knowne vnto him: now casting this doubt, then another, so that in no sort shee might settle her thoughtes how to bring her desires to effect, in such maner as she might be void of suspition to the world, and acquaint Andrugio with her secrete loues towards him, hauing not any friend of familiaritie to bee aduised by, but her wayting woman, of whose trust and fidelitie in such a waightie cause shee was not assured of. Yet notwithstanding arming her selfe with hope, the only comfort of the distressed, she resolued with her selfe a litle while longer to beare it out, hoping that time and her courtesie vled towards him, might cause him to craue that which she could willingly, and with all her heart offer him.

Andrugio on the top of his pleasure, leading a life free
from

to Fortune.

from all incumbrances of body, yet could not forget the loue he bare his Susania, which howe often he called to minde, the more began his sorrow: yea such desire he had to see his best beloued, that his whole studie and continuall care was how to accomplish the same, in doubt of euerie occasion that might hinder his determination. Thus betweene doubtfulness, and dispaire, liued this young prince discontented, that he took no pleasure in keeping anie kinde of company at all. Such was his honourable minde, with dutifull allegiance, tied by the lincke of faith vnto his Lord, who had freed him, that he durst not for feare of deniall, make any request for his fauour therem: and to goe of his free-will, he thought it villanie to requite with such ingratitude, so honourable a man, that loued him as his owne. Well so long continued those passions, abiding such grieuous tormentes of minde, that his lively collour began to waxe pale and wann: yea his bloud which was fresh, and well besee- ming, dried, and his bodie growne with continuall grieffe into a faire sickness, insomuch that his alteration, was noted of all, lamented of many that did know him, but especiallie of the noble Lord Ieronimie, and his sister Messalina, who continually noted euerie sight, and would oftentimes demand the cause of his sorrowe, whiche by no means they could vse, he would discover. But Lord Ieronimie, as one carefull of his well doing, would neuer be satisfied with such answeres as Andrugio would giue, nor allow his excuses for tructh: wherefore taking him one day into the fields of purpose to solace, they spent their time in walking, pleasantly discoursing vntill the Lord Ieronimie comming to a pleasant medow, bedecked with natures ornaments as much as they had scene, which viewing, they both censured of the beutie of the field, one commending the delightful smell of floures, the other the situation of the place, which was most excellent, neere vnto the edge of one side running a most pleasant christall streame, which bubling ouer, the round Boples gaue a sweete noyse to the hearers

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upon the side whereof was growing a rowe of moste exceeding fine poplar trees, which ouer shadowed the place, as it was most pleasant.

This place aboue the rest that they had chanced on, Lord Ieronimie chose to solace himself in, as also fit for his purpose: wherefore, commanding Andrugio to sit down by him, like a louing kind Lord hee began to participate with Andrugio, in this wise.

Andrugio, mine owne Andrugio, I haue long sought fit opportunitie, to haue secret conference with thee, and ha- uing found place and time for the same, be not moued, that I growe into those speeches, which I haue to vse, conside- ring that they be spoken of loue, and not maliciously. First my Andrugio, whiche I haue to say vnto thee is this, I haue since our coming from the marriage of my liege the Emperours daughter, noted many a sad and heauie coun- tenance in thee, which I knowe argueth a discontented mind, proceeding as my cōiecture assureth me of loue: now Andrugio, as I freed thee from the bondage of þe turks unknowne, if there be anie such cause, feare not to make it known vnto me. I haue vowed to pleasure thee al þe I may, stand not therfore on nise terms, but let me know þe dame whom thou hast made choyle of, to gouerne thy affections, and if I seeke not all possible meanes for thy heartes con- tent, accuse me euer of dishonour, and holde me the moste wretched vile creature on the earth.

Andrugio hearing this discourse of his Lordes, which he least looked for, could not well on the sodaine tell how to answere, for that he was not assured whether he spake vpon surmise, or that he had some secret knowledge of his loue to Susana: yet thinking to hazard his credite with Lord Ie- ronimie, he answereth.

My gracious Lord, what humble thanks my heart ren- dereth for so great fauours, my tooonge cannot declare. But gracious Lord, where fortune hath placed an extraordinarie want, their wil shal supplie the defects of wealth, & loyaltie performing

to Fortune.

performe that whiche my meane abilitie can neuer put in
practise, The tree that bringeth forth no fruite, is good
for fuel, and stones are not to be valued by an outward
view, but an inward vertue, Prometheus did conſtute wel
of the workes of Lycias, and I hope my gracious Lord
will not miſconſtute the will of Andrugio, but rather, to
caſt an eye to my ſecret willingneſſe, then to looke for me-
rites which I cannot manifeſt: what I ſinde noble Lord
by experience, the time and place forbids me to participate
leaſt I be accuſed of flatterie, yet what I conceiue, I leaue
to your honourable coniecture, which I cannot any way
diſcriber: onely this alwaies accompt, Andrugio is your
ductiſull and loyall ſeruaunt untill death, which hee hath
bowed by the true band of friendſhip, neuer to violate:
Thus finding in my ſelfe, a will that ſhall neuer wauer, a
faith unfained, and a life bowed to perpetuall loyaltie.
Hoping that as Protagenes was excuſed for his imper-
fect pictures, by doing what he could, ſo alſo ſhall I ſinde
your Lordſhippes fauour, ſince I promiſe the performance
of anie thing I may.

But my good Lord, touching your demand, I beſeeche
you thinke thus, that if there were any thing which diſtur-
bed my quiet of heart, I ſhould aboue all, for many conſi-
derations acquaint your Lordſhip with the ſame, but ſoue
as your Lordſhip cenſured, it is not but as I can beſt con-
ceiue of mine owne grieſe, a melancholicke paſſion,
naturally proceeding of deſire, to ſee my native countrie,
my prince and friends to whome it is altogether vnknoyn
what is become of me, whether I liue or reſt with death,
Beſides my good Lord, I liue heere a meere ſtranger in
high fauour, reaping the benefite of your honourable coun-
tenance, more then any man, whiche as I am ſtranger,
may make me dread, the ſpight of ſome one or other, enuy-
ing your Lordſhips will, when noting my unworthineſſe,
for ſo great benefices, may ſecke my confuſion. Thus my
good Lord haue I in the humbleſt maner I may, made
knowne

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knowne unto your Lordship, the greatest and of what I say, for that it is spoken in trueth.

Andrugio answered his Lord, I take thy word as a warrant, for what thou sayest, & assure thee on my honour, that as thou art a stranger, thy welcome is the greater. I neither yet haue deserued at thy handes suche loue as thou professest me, but assure thee, hee shall not lue in bondes of my royaltie, that shall enuie Andrugio, or seeke to doe him the least wrong which may be offered a man. Therefore surcease thy heauinesse, and set feare apart, for of a Lord, I wil become a father unto thee, and a friend unto thy friends and louers. Time calleth vs now home ward, wherefore I will detayne thee no longer.

Andrugio glad at the heart, his counterfaint answere was taken for currant, thought himselfe the happiest of manie, this communication was ended, and with a better will followed his Lord home then we can imagine, as glad he had escaped the suspicion of his maister, as the scholler that feareth beating for his lesson: but now to returne to madam *Melissina*.

This Ladie whose heart Cupid hath made a prisoner unto his deitie, sought manie times opportunitie to ease her grieffe, by all the occasions she could imagine, but none that she durst attempt for feare: diuers times she determineth one meane, and fully resolued to followe it, then the doubt of some contrary accident, diueth her into dispayre, combating thus in the extremities of her heart, deuising what was best to bring her desires to effect. *Venus* seeing her so firme and constant a souldier, lending a little ayd to comfort her, prouideth this shift. There was attending on a Lady, a neighbour of the Lord Ieronimie, a Gentlewoman in Saxonie borne, with whome, for countries sake, Andrugio: grew something familiarly acquainted with this gentlewoman, did Ladie *Melissina* seeke also to haue familiaritie, and on the sodaine began to accompanie her Ladie so often, that with her repaie, she grew into great friendship

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friendship with her waiting Gentlewoman, so much that there might no day scape her, without kissing her new acquainted friend. When Melissina had with great fauours and bountie w^mne this Gentlewoman to bee her friende, walking in a garden neere adioyning to her brothers house she brake with her in this sorte.

Elenora (for so was she named) I haue seene thy honest kind demeanour as well to straungers as to thy Lady and friendes that proue thy loue, and of all, of what estate or calling soeuer of our owne countrie, I haue for thy good behauiour made choise of thee, as of one to whom my hart hath linked her selfe in bond of true friendship aboue all other. If thou canst therefore (my sweete Elenora) thinke but the like of me. I protest vnto thee, from this time to the end of my life, I will be a second Elenora, & honour thee as my self, vsing thee as if thou wert Melissina: speak therefore my friendly companion, if my offer be acceptable, resolu me, for I long to heare thy answer.

Elenora which had receiued great friendshippe at the handes of this Lady, knowing shee was of honour and of great reputation, thought her selfe happie to liue in the society of so noble a Lady. Yet notwithstanding the fauour offered, with humble and dutifull reuerence as one knowing full well how to behaue her selfe, returned this answer.

My honorable Lady, how acceptable your gracious offer is vnto your seruant, I hope your wisdom will conserue: far vnderneath I am to participate with so honorable a Lady in such familiarity as it hath pleased you to make offer. But seeing it standeth with your fauour to make choise of one so simple as I am, a Gentlewoman of meane parentage, and a stranger borne with all dutie: I commit my selfe vnto your Ladships disposition: protesting that for euer Elenora is and shall be the dutifull attendant of Madame melissina truly and faithfully to serue you in all reuerence, as becommeth so noble a lady: to the which by the Gods that framed me, I sweare.

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Enough my Elenora (quoth Badram Melissina) geue me thy hand to performe thy saying, and hereafter leaue to vse these tearmes of reuerence to thy Melysina, who hath in friendship vnitied her selfe vnto thee, supposing the shape of Elenora to be transformed to Melysina, and Melissina to Elenora.

And now Elenora, to make prooffe of that which I hope to finde in thee, I must impart vnto thee, according to my trust reposed in thy secretie a matter of no small waight, with which (Elenora) I commit my hono^r, life, and reputation: which if I loued thee not, I vould for euer conceale, as I haue long done from disclosing thereof to any friend whatsoeuer, yet dooth it concerne me nere. To make many words (my Elenora) is but to fill the aire with winde, and spend time, which we may hardly doo, for scarce thou bee of thy Lady missed: and therefore briefe (sweete Elenora) I loue, yea loue I doo, with the most entire affection and desire of my heart one with whom I knowe thy selfe to bee familiar, with whom my selfe cannot be acquainted yet I haue offered many courtesies, and offers of friendship, which hee regardeth not. This is the sonne I haue to say, onely I omit his name vntill I heare thy answer.

Elenora seeing by her countenance that she meant what she said, stricken in a dunpe, began to studie an answer, for for feare her rash proffer might breede cause of repentance, that shee had a louer of her own, whom shee was loth to spare to Badram Melissina, although she loued her well, yet after a pause taken, hazarding her word, she bowed deuoutly to conceale whatsoeuer should be uttered, and with her best counsell and greatest paines labour to bring her desire to effect.

Melissina having made sure worke with Elenora, was halfe comforted, and without any more protestations, told her, that Andrugio a servant to the Lord Ieronymie, her coun-

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countriman was the man, whom she fancied aboue all the creatures that euer her eyes beheld. But such is his strange condition, that he abandoneth the familiar companie of al, so that I cannot heare by the report of any one, that he keepeth companie with any but thee: Wherefore (swete Elenora) as I haue with the integritie of my hart declared my zeale to thy countriman, so be the instrument to bring my desires to effect, and commaund Melissina, yea her life to doo thee good.

Melissina with teares trickling downe her cheekes tenderly wyinging Elenora by y hand smilng her long cration, of whom Elenora tooke such remorse as she was forced by the tender instigation of her heart to participate with her. But hauing passed this womanish fit, she answereth, Madam, I haue now what I desired, by knowing y man your heart so much wisheth to enioy, Patient theretore your selfe, and doo not with grieffe oppresse your heart, for sorrow is no medicine for this maladie, but a corrosiue that will consume you, onely as you haue imparted the same vnto me, so leaue the execution thereof vnto me whome it concerneth for your fauours shewed me in some part very nere.

Thanks (Elenora) for this comfort, wherewith thou hast indewed my heart with such a company of ioy, as I feel the sweetnesse thereof already disappeared throwout euery member of my body. Time, an enemy to friendes ouerslippeth so suddainly, that we must needes part for feare thou be missed: wherefore we will for this time cease our parly not doubting but that thou wilt remember me, and so departed Elenora to the house of her Lady, and Madam melissina to her lodging.

Andrugio according to his accustomed maner, presently after supper conning to see his countrifwoman, whome he found in a great studie, as one (as it might seeme) careful of that she had vnder taken: which gaue Andrugio cause to demaund the reason of her heauines, which she manie

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wayes excused. But Andrugio measuring her fancies by his owne desires, in tell told her she was in loue. Entering thus into communication, Good countreiman (quoth Elenora) if your experience in Loue-causes be such, that you can conceiue by outward apparance, what the heart desireth, be not mooued, nor any thing displeased, if vnder benedicite I demaund with what Lady, Gentlewoman, or other you be your selfe in loue: Blush not man (quoth Elenora) for your wan lookes, your heauie sighes, and your grieffe by outward apparance is such, that I haue noted in you a gret alteration since your comming home with my lord Ieronymie, which doubtlesse argueth you are in loue. Wherefore (Andrugio) if thou be, feare not to disclose it vnto me, for a womans helpe may stand in such a cause in more steed then the counsell of an experienced wise man: and for my part I vow vnto thee by the honour I owe to Diana, and by all such holy rites as become a virgine, if either my paines or counsell may auaille thee, thou shalt find my word and deed one: yea, if it were to manifest thy suite to Madam Melisima thy Lords sister, if she be the woman.

I am verie glad countreiman, answered Andrugio that my comming hath remedied your melancholike humour, and made you thus pleasant, but that I know as thou supposest, I neuer did, nor neuer meane to do, because that experience by others hath taught me to eschew that bayte, which entering pleasantly, will confound the iudiciall and consume the heart, if that present remedie be not ministered in time by their desired Ladies. Wherefore knowing the perill, I will as I haue done, auoid that mischief, which may breed my confusion.

Well (quoth Elenora) I may take thy word, but how I beleue thy weake answer I leaue to report, for that I knowe there is no creature liuing, who dooth not make especiall choise of one, with whom they participate aboue al other, and to loue (I know) is incident both to men and women, by which I assure me Andrugio, thou doost loue, de-
my

to Fortune,

me it as long as you will.

If thy reasons propounded, be true (Elenora) and that thou iudge of the secretes of my heart, by outward signes, why shouldst thou denie thy loue to me, that so friendly demanded to knowe thy choyse, at my first conning, thy countenance shewing it so plaine: for behold in thy forehead written that worde that Paris wrote euer in the sight of his beloued Helena, (*I loue*) which being apparant, why shouldst thou denie it.

Well Andrugio, it is folly for women, whose wittes be weake, to stand reasoning with men, whose studies in rethorike and logike may perswade & deswade such foolcs as my self, so what (in honest wise) they list, but were mad-dam *Melissina* here, you could not carrie it so away. It is now but early nightes, and my Lord and Lady in bed, wherefore good countreman, if thy businesse be not great, accompanie me to the Lady *Melissinaes* lodging, who I know, will bid you welcome, and for my sake, to whom I am bound, & would faine acquaint thee wth her. Be not therefore so strange, God may prouide for thee in time, that as the desertes hath wonne the loue of the Lord Ieronimie, thou mayest likewise obtaine in time the loue of this Lady, and become heire of Lord Ieronomies liuing, for that hee will neuer marrie as I haue heard him say: and children he hath none.

Thankes good countrewoman, quoth Andrugio, for thy kinde frompe, a poore man may liue to requite you: for my companie, which you craue, if you will accept it, I am ready to waite on you to her Ladieship.

Elenora, glad that shee had made this entermedling to the Ladies motion, tooke him at his worde, and conducteth him vnto her lodging, whome they found readie to bed, that hearing the voyce of Elenora, commanded her waiting woman to open the doore, *Melissina* seeing her beloued enter with her, was put to such an non plus, as she could not well tell what to say, that at last, re-

Handwritten signature or scribble, possibly reading "Melissina" or similar.

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moued from her studie, she had him most heartily welcome, and demaunded the cause of Elenors coming, on such a sodaine: To who he said Elenora, the truth is madam, that hauing this good compaign of my countreman, and my teisure sitting, too vntimely yet to goe to bed, I intreated him to bring me hither, whither I trust he is welcome.

Elenora, quoth Melissina, he is in truth welcome, for thy sake, as also his owne, and for that my Lord and brother doth so much fauour him as I know he doth, if it shall please him in anie sorte to vse my friendship, for his better preferment to my brother, or any one, he shall finde me ready: and good Andrugio, be no stranger vnto me, for of my honour, the honest care you haue of the charge my Lord hath committed vnto you, hath gained you credite with your Lord, and fauour of his friendes, amongst which Melissina, though she speake least for your benefite, yet will not be the last, make triall where you please.

The undeserued fauours, I haue found at my honorable Lordes handes, with your Ladyships courtesies, poore Andrugio knoweth not anie way howe to deserue, but in truth and loyaltie, to whiche in the most humblest maner, I binde me so long as I shall inioy breath, and if your Ladyship shall please to command Andrugio, my readinesse to your seruice shall shew my zeale, in performing the same.

Passing thus the time in communication to little purpose, the night reasonably well spent, Elenora bidding madam Melissina good night, takes her leaue with her friendly countreman.

After this first familiaritie, Andrugio had with madam Melissina, oftentimes repayed vnto her lodging, as well to shew his dutie vnto her, as to spend the time in honest and friendly talke, discoursing of diuers thinges, to delight her, being often solitarie, as desirous of little compaignie, Andrugio and Elenora excepted, now began his miserie to approche. Fortune pretending to grieve
him

to Fortune.

him another spurne, To loe, a gentleman of the Lord Ieronimie, who bare secret loue vnto maddam Melissina albeith he neuer durst reueale the same, yet continually would he walke at least two or three houres in the evening, neere about the lodging of his beloued Ladie, by which meanes, he chanced oftentimes to espie Andrugio, conning late from the Ladies lodging, which perceaued & noted, growing iealous of his often repaice there, hee sought manie waies to acquaint his Lord with the same, but could not deuise anie fit meanes to the accomplishing of the same, enuying still in his heart Andrugio. This gentleman amongst others his companions, hauing spent their time in riotous drinking, and carousing, he began to accuse Andrugio of villany, saying, that there was no night escaped, wherein Andrugio vsed not in moste vile and dishonest manner, the bodie of madam Melissina. This talke noted of diuers, in the morningone enuying Andrugios happinesse more then the rest, greewing that a stranger should haue that countenance vnder their Lord, came vnto this forsayd gentleman, and charged him with his speeches, vsed agaynst madam Melissina, which he affirmed, whereupon finding as they thought, time to thrust him from their Lordes fauour, they determined to accuse him of the crime, & taking no respect on their deuise, they presently sought the Lord Ieronymie vnto whose presence being come, kneeling on their knees, they humbly besought his honour, to pardon them, for what they had to say. Ieronymie amased at this sodaine motion, desirous to knowe their mindes, bad them say on. Then thus my gracious Lord, whereas it hath pleased you of more zeale, and pitie to a Christian distressed, to free Andrugio from the captiuitie of the turkes slaucry, of a bondman, to make him of great accompt in your country: knowe this my honourable Lord, in requitall of those your honours gracious fauours bestowed vpon him, moste captiue like, hee seeketh the dishonour of you and your house, by accompanying himselfe with your dearest and be-

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A Defiance

loued sister madam Melissina. This my good Lord, I speake not of any euill will to the man, nor enuie to the Lady, but in trueth and dutie to your Lordship, for that I haue scene oftentimes my selfe, his repayre to her: and once suspecting the same, I followed him, when peering in at her chamber window, I saw the in most vnlawfull sort together on her bed, her mayden beeing sent of purpose away, to my great grieffe, knowing well by the fauours you haue done that vnthankfull Andrugio.

Ieronimie could scarce forbear to heare his tale to end, so greeued at the heart was he at their speeches, but dissembling the same in the best sort he could, thanked them for their good wil, and bad them depart. Ieronimie icalous of what he had heard, could not be quiet, vntill he did know the effect of what they had tolde, and therfore determining with himselfe to see the euent of it, pretended to watch that night disguised, when hee came thither, and hee departed, supper ended, and eueryman departing his way, Ieronimie awayed his time, and scarcely went out of the house, disguised in such sorte that hee that had knowne him well, might haue bene mistaken, secretly ambushing himselfe, to see Andrugio his coming.

Not long had he stayd, but Andrugio, with Elenora, as was their vse came together, and entered the house, which whē he saw, blame him not to be malcontent, fearing by this unhappie beginning, the end euent of the rest yet vnquiet as hee was, perswaded himselfe as well as he could, thinking, that being both there, no further matter at that time could happen, yet would hee see his returne, wapecting thus two houres, and something more. Andrugio and the Ladie playing a game at chesses, which they were loth to giue ouer without victorie on the one side, Elenora hauing more hast then the rest, desired madam Melissina to lend her mayd to accompanie her, which she did. When Ieronimie saw this, think now Lordinges, howe intolerable it was to him, albeit no defartes of either part, but wrong
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to Fortune.

suppositions of an envious person: Ieronimie seeing this, might no longer forbear their presence, but with speed entered the house and entering the chamber wher they plaid: (checke) quoth Andrugio to the Ladie, which Ieronimie hearing, answered, I villaine, and that checke shall cost thy life, miscreant and vngreatfull villaine as thou art, tell mee for which good fauour y I haue done thee, hast thou sought the confusion of me and mine? I will not now stand to reason the cause with thee, but goe with me. As for thee lewd Dane, that hast ycloed thy body as a companion to this rascal, I will take such order as thy hot desires shal bee made coole inough. Thus furiously hailing Andrugio out of the chamber, he departed, committing him to the custody of the Goaler, where bewailing this suddaine chance, not knowing any cause why, we leaue him.

Maddan melissina whome the griefe of this had overwhelmed, was so surpris'd with the same, that she fel into a trance, in which extremitie, her maide which went with Elenora returning found her, wondering at this suddain alteration, but left her not without calling help, and with all possible means sought to bring her to life: but in vain they strue, for she hath paid her due to death, whom all the labour they might vse preuailed not to call againe. When they saw no remedy, the maide presently dispatched a messenger to Ieronimy, enforming him what was happened. But carelesse, he thinking it had bene some pollicie of the Lady to drawe him thether, that by intreatie shee might craue grace at his hands for her friends, would not giue credite to it: But rewarding the messenger with bitter words, rested all night as he might. In the morning early pretending to let his sister know his mind, and how hardly he brooked her lasciuious life, which she spent in fornication with Andrugio, he repaired to her chamber, wher entring the same, he saw y breathlesse tronke of the Lady lieng on the rushes, and her maide with others in teares bitterly bewailing the vntime death of her, whom for her curtesie they loued dcerely.

A Defiance

This sight of Ieronymie, was litle pleasing, at which maugre his heart he could not refrain the shedding of tears but standing mute a long tme, as one in a trance, on the suddaine conning to himselfe, he inquired the cause of her death, and how it came to passe, whereof none in the company could aduertise him, wherefore accusing his owne follies and light beleeve, hee supposed that his bytter wordes, vbled in disgrace and slander of her honest life to be the cause thereof. But dissembling his gricfe he presently departed to his owne house, and sending for those two Gentlemen which had made the complaint vnto him of his sister and Andrugio, taking them into his chamber, as if he had in secreete to impart vnto them, he stabbed them both, to the end they should not in like sort, as they had to him acquaint others with the slander of his sister and Andrugio.

Taking order for Madam Melissina her buriall according to her estate, he kept his chamber long tme, and would not be seene or spoken to of any body whatsoeuer: in the midst of these sorowes, he often thought of Andrugio, who lay in most pitifull miserie, almost starued for want of foode by his owne command: which when hee considered, dreading the punishment of God for his light beleeve, and massacring those he had slaine, besides his sisters death, more neere vnto him then all the rest, he commaunded Andrugio to be dispossessed from all the substance he had, and to bee clothed in such base apparell as he found him in, being prisoner in the Turkes Gallies, and sent him into freeland to a friend of his, a Nobleman, whome in his letters he earnestly desired to inflict some grieuous torment vpon Andrugio.

This Noble man not knowing any cause, but at Ieronymie his request, kept him as a drudge in his kitchin to doo his slaucerie, and for all kind of cariage for the prouision of his house, he made him to draue home like a horse vpon fleids, shooting him of purpose in wooden shooes with long calkes of yron, for sliding on the yce: in this miserie liued
Andrugio

to Fortune.

Andrugio the tearme of two yeares, with greate penurie still accusing Fortune, that would not as wel commaund his life to be taken from him, and so end his calamities, as to aggravate his paines, dayly to inflict new punishments on him, too much for a man to indure, and enough for a beast. Traueiling thus with his sleids from place to place, there chanced a countre man of his, a traueiler, wanting in the towne where Andrugio was a common sleid which carried passengers, he requested Andrugio (whom hee understood dwelled within a mile or two where his businesse lay) that he might passe with him. Andrugio vnderstanding by his speech, that he either was of Saxonie, or neere there bordering, tooke him in, and curteously entertained him: and passing on their iourney, enquired from whence he was, who answered he was of Saxonie. This word began to renue a liuely collour in the face of miserable Andrugio, who thought now to heare the certaine newes how all things did stand, of the health of his father the Duke: wherefore he began as a stranger that did know little, to enquire of the gouernment of the country, which the stranger curteously tolde him, adding withall the death of the Duke, with their sorowe for the losse of so noble a Prince. These wordes caused Andrugio to shed teares most piteously, which was noted of his passenger, which demanded the cause of his suddaine heaumes. Andrugio excusing the matter, said that he could not choose but lament their losse, who shoulde want so good a Iusticer as hee reported that Duke to be: demanded further, if hee left no children behind him to succede him, and how the countre was gouerned: My friend (quoth the Saxon) but that grieffe will not permit me to discourt it, I could tel thee as lamentable a historie as euer thy cares haue heard, but answering thy demandes, I beseech thee of friendship to pardon mee the rest. Truth is (my friend) our Duke hauing one sonne of wit pregnant, in learning forwarde, and of personage for his time peerelesse: This yong prince in wofull time we may

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all say that liue in this grieved countrie of Saxonie, desirous to learne knowledge, craued licence to study at the Vniuersitie of Siena whether he had leaue to goe, accompanied with diuers yong Nobles of our country, and Gentlemen of great name, who most vntimely lost their liues, as they trauielled thowen Germany, and he only left aliue, & yet in great danger: but recouering his health he departed to Siena, and from thence no man knoweth whether, nor none can tell whether he liue or no, yet hath there bene great inquirie made for him in many countries. His Dukedome in his absence is gouerned by sixe lordes of the countrie in very good order: vnto whome not long since, there came a braue Gallant from the Vniuersitie of Siena to enquire of the good health of our Dukes sonne, named Andrugio, for that as the report sheweth, they were bedfellowes and swoyne friendes in Siena. But when he found not my Lord Andrugio, and was truely aduertised that they had not scene him since his being at Siena, with great grieve he lamented his absence, and vowed neuer to leaue trauell vntill hee found him, or had some certaine newes of him: so leauing his name, which (as I can remember) was Galastio, sonne vnto the Duke of millaine, hee departed to the great sorrow of our Nobles, who perswaded him earnestly to leaue the hazard of so bad a match.

Andrugio who had with no litle grief harkened to this, could not forbear the shedding of teares most abundantlie, which the traueiler pitied to se, least doubting that which afterwards happened.

Andrugio with much a doo dzieng vp the conduites of his weeping eies, vnto the talke of the traueiler thus answered.

Then good my friend (quoth hee) if your dwelling bee within the Dukedome of Saxonie, as you make report, tell me I beseech you how you came by the knowledge of this that you haue made relation, & I wil requite you if I may.

Pea, quoth the traueiler, I was borne in the Dukedome
and

to Fortune

and from my childehood brought by y^e citie where the Duke kept his court. What I say is full well knowne vnto mee, My father a Gentleman of his Graces retinue while he liuen, whome I haue daily seene with teares to bewaile the death of this good Duke, and with no litle sorrow, lament his sommes absence. Tell me then friend, how if it shoulde be thy chance, to meet the dukes sonne, what fauour wouldest thou doe him: if his want were great, couldest thou anie way relieue him, or in what sorte wouldest thou deale with him. Sir (quoth hee) if my hope were such to finde him, I were the happiest creature of my whole progenie, and so shoulde repute my selfe, and great fauour shoulde I gaine in my country if I might but bring certain newes of his life or death, to whome I would willingly as my dutie and leache Lord, impart what I haue or can by my acquaintance, marchantes of our owne countrie take by to relieue him, whome I trust, needeth not my helpe, if he liue.

The dukes sonne may thinke himselfe bound to you quoth Andrugio, if he did but know your loue to him, and if he be a gentleman, he cannot but requite it. That Andrugio, by talke had knowledge of the man, yet not resolved, whether to make himselfe knowne vnto his countriman, to heare the sorrowe of the Lordes for his absence, and what grieue his whole countrey indured for him: besides his double sorrowe for the decaye of his noble father studying this what to doe, hee resolved that it was the pleasure of God, so fortunately to giue him knowledge of the state of his countrey, and therefore not against the pleasure of God to refuse so good opportunitie, least he that sendeth all happinesse displeased at his follies, shoulde augment his punishments. wherefore resolved (he saith) Lorenzo (for so was he called) since I see the loue thou bearest the duke in his life, as thy report, to his houre after deathe, sheweth, I were vngratefull, if I shoulde not requite thee with some friendship. Therefore my good Lorenzo, know that thou

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Let the man þ̄ shalt glad the heartes of them thou sayst doo
mourne, by bringing them certaine twinges of Lord An-
drugio their poore Prince, whome I can assure thee, li-
ueth but in great pouertie, farre vnitting his estate. wher-
fore if thou canst procure to furnishe him with provision
of apparell and money for his charges, I can and will
bring thee to his presence, let me know therefore thy minde
for our iourne beginneth to shorten, and I must leaue thee.
Lorenzo hearing the name of him whome he had thought
neuer to haue scene more, began to note the man more and
more, but so much was he altered in countenance, with the
sunne, and weather beating at sea, that he coulde not knowe
him, wherefore Lorenzo besought him of that zeale that
Christians owe one to another, not to hide himselfe anie
longer, if he were the man as he did suppose he was, to let
him knowe it, that he might doe him that dutie as to his
deare Lord, or if not himself, not to depart vntil he brought
him vnto Lord Andrugio his presence, that if his pouertie
be such as you report, Lorenzo may relieue it, and shew the
zeale, he oweth vnto the noble Andrugio.

Andrugio, being assured by this of Lorenzo his zeale
could forbear no longer, but with teares running lyke
streams, winging Lorenzo by þ̄ hand, sayd, Lorenzo, my
olde acquainted friend and companion Lorenzo, how may
my heart reioyce to heare thy loue to him whom thou ne-
uer hadst no cause to thinke on? but since I knewe it by
proof, and see what dutie thou dost owe the duke deceased,
albeit I may be ashamed to manifest that I cannot conceale
from thee. Know this Lorenzo, I am that Andrugio,
Sonne and Heire to the noble Duke of Saxonic, who
by the crueltie of fortune haue neuer liued since my go-
ing to *Sienna* but in great miserie, and neuer was it my
chance in my trauels, which hath not bene small, to meete
with anie of my acquaintance. But seeing God hath caused
thee to be the first, and only man: let me know Lorenzo,
thy counsell what is best to be done, thou seest the life I
lead

to Fortune,

lead is slauiſhe and moſte odious, ſuche as my heart hardly
broketh, yet can I not eſchew it in any ſort. If I ſhould ſue,
he, to whome I am thus inthralled, would purſue me: if I
refuſe this wherein I haue ſome libertie, then might it be
woſe for me, no: how to diſcharge my ſelfe from it, I can
not deuſe: if I acquaint him with my eſtate, then may:
be, that he will inflict ſome great ſommes of monie on me,
for my ranſome, ſo that I am now in ſuch an agonie, tha:
I know not what ſhal become of me. Deſirous I am to ſee
my native countrie and friendes, and to comfort theſe my
louing ſubiettes, which ſorrow for my abſence: if thou lend
ayde to my deſire, let me know: therefore thy aduiſe Lo-
renzo, and aſſure thee, that the good thou affoordedſt me in
this extremitie, ſhalbe repayd thee with many thankes.

Lorenzo ſhed teares abundant, to heare his tale, yet
was his heart ſurpriſed ſo with ioy, that hee coulde not
ſpeake, but paſſing it ouer as he might, kneeling on hys
knees, humbly kiſſed his hand, giuing God thankes, for
blessing him with ſo good fortune, as to be the firſt that
ſhould bring the tidinges of comfort to his countrie, prote-
cting withal, his purſe, yea life & all, was at his commande-
ment: & my good Lord, (quoth he) touching your depar-
ture, if you will be ruled by my aduiſe, we will return to the
place from whence we came, where I haue ſome friends &
acquaintance of our countrie, with whome I will deale, for
monie and neceſſaries, beſitting your Lordſhip, your ſelfe
ſhall reſt as ſecret as you may, vntill the ſpring our ſhips
may be free, when with the firſt we will depart. This coun-
ſell liked Andrugio well, and without demaill returned to
the place from whence they came, which ere they might re-
couer, was late in the night. Lorenzo being well acquaint-
ed in his lodging, called them vp with diuers of his coun-
trimen, to whome he declared what had happened, who
were as ioyfull of this good newes as Lorenzo.

Thus remained Prince Andrugio, amongeſt hys
friendly countriemen, honoured with all titles of maieſtie
beſeeming

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becoming his estate, but verie secret, nor neuer disclosed, what hee was but amongst themselves, for whome Lorenzo was not a little careful to provide all things for his honor, that he might with maiestie, becoming a prince returne to his countrie.

All things provided for this his happie iourne, the spring nowe appearing, where the frosen alpes began to disclose, and the splendaut beames of the sunne shewed in moste glorie, Their provision beeing all readie to clappe a boord, they attend but his pleasure that hath wrought all things else for their content, to send them a happie gale: whiche luckely coming as they expected, they were with the first readie to set saile, bidding freeland farewell, their gallant Barke sicesed the waves, with a prosperious and happie gale, to the ending of euerie one of their wishes, and accomplishing Andrugio his desire. Time, and short time, hath brought them to the port of their desire, when they had no sooner anchored, but Lorenzo sent by Andrugio, hastined to see his aged father, and withall to will him in all haste to repayre vnto him, to participate in counsell, what he were best to doe, either sodenly to make his arriuall knowne, or to conceale it for a time, but scarcely had Lorenzo his father blessed him, & giuen his welcome, when blab-like he reuealed vnto his father Andrugio his coming, who as ioyfull to heare it, as the other was in recounting it, presently spred it throughout the citie, and to the gouernours of the state, who presently vpon the report, addrested themselves withall the honour they could to receaue him, commanding the belles to be roong, and sol-lome prayles with reioysing fires, throughout the Citie in signe of ioy.

Andrugio expecting long the returne of Lorenzo, looking earnestly for him, on the sodaine heard all the belles to ring, which made him admire woonderfully: in the end hee might beholde the shoare filled with multitudes of people, and the numbers to increase, by which he imagined, there was

to Fortune.

Was some thing in hand. Thus standing in dumpees, there came from the shore all the Nobles of his countrie to giue him welcome and to bring him to land, wher with great ioy of his subiects he was intertained in such sort, as might haue caused the mightiest Emperour to haue thought well of his people, and to giue them thanks. In great pompe rides Andrugio to his pallace with ioyfull hearts receiued of his subiectes, who to shew their loues, with triumphes, masking, and other pastimes, during one whole weck spent their times.

The solemne welcome was not finished, when the lords and states of the countrie that had the gouernment, in open assembly deliuered their authoritie in most reuerent and dutiful manner, acknowledging him to be the right and lawful heir of their deceased duke, desiring him y^e guideth the hartes of all princes, to make him as fortunate in his actions as his father.

Andrugio settled thus in his Dukedome, gouerned with great wisdom, vsing iustice to all, with his nobles familiar, and to his commons curteous, wronging no man, but releasing all that were comfortles, to the prisoners and men in bondage, he had a speciall regard, measuring their miseries by his owne calamities, hauing ben as they are. To recount all his honours, would fill large volumes, and grow tedious to the hearer onlie let this suffice, he liued the tearmes of two yeares and more unmarried, beloued of all within his dukedome so generally, that they delighted in nothing so much, as in lauding & extolling his honorable actions in such wise that other countries gaue him the like honor as his owne people: passing the flourishing prime of his youth, the Nobles of his country hauing care of the state, offered many greete mariages, but al to no purpose: with thanks he returned all their friendship, accepting none. The old sinners of affections which lay raked vp in his heart, began now againe to burne, so that day nor night was spent without great care taking how he might accomplish his desire, & inioyn Susania

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to his wife, yet for that she was so base, and fearing his nobles would be offended, to know her calling, & refusing their offers, was in great perplexitie, not daring to disclose it to his dearest friend and most familiar. But Cupid geuing spur to his desires, could not let him rest untill hee sought some meane for his quiet. Casting many waies in his perplexed mind, how to giue his heart ease, and his desire end, determineth to proue the faithfulnessse of Lorenzo, whom he had aduanced to honoz, for this fauour showed: wherfore finding opportunitie, he brake with him after this manner,

Lorenzo, how much I doo reckon my selfe beholding vnto thee I will not say, by whose means and good fortune in meeting thee I am the sooner settled in my Dukedome, a friendship which shall neuer be forgotten so long as Andrugio liueth. But Lorenzo as thy faith hath bene firme vnto me, and thy readinesse as great to doo me this good, so am I the bolder to make choise of thee aboue al I know to impart a matter of more waight, and toucheth me nerer then the losse of my Dukedom, in which if I find thy readinesse and secrecie according to my wish, thou bindest Andrugio by an euerlasting band of inuolable friendship to rest thine. Speake therefore Lorenzo, if I shall repose this trust and confidence in thee according as I doo desire, then solemnely swear the concealing of the same, and thy speedy furtherance.

Lorenzo as one desiring nothing more then the princes fauour and to augment his good opinion of him rather then to dectrase it any way, protested vnto him by the faith of a loyall subiect, that rather would he endure all the tormentes that might be deuised, then disclose any thing he was charged to conceale, to any one, but such as he was commaunded.

Andrugio seeing by his earnest lookes, that he meante faith, interrupted his speech: saying, enough Lorenzo, I accept thy word, therefore hearken to what I haue to say vnto thee.

Thou

to Fortune.

Thou hast heard me already recount the hard beginning of my unfortunate iourney to Siena, with losse of my friendly companions, what time my selfe hardly escaped with life: wounded thus I was cured by the handes of a simple countrey tooman, who entertained me well, of whom I wanted nothing, necessarie for my releefe. During this my time of sickness, I was attended on by my friendly Cles daughter, a maiden with all perfections of a woman so indowed, that it is hard to finde her equall. This maiden for her womanish behaviour, her wisdom and good conditions, besides her beautie which exceeded, so pleased my minde, that she wonne my affections to be hers: yea so did I in hearte craue her for my wife, before all that euer I sawe, that I took no pleasure but in her companie, to parlie with her, and to heare the sweete soule recount such olde tales as shee had learned of her ancient father and mother. To this mayden (Lorenzo) I plighted my faith to live with her as my wife, and she the like to me, as to her husband, the which vow, I neither can nor may forget. Wherefore (Lorenzo) being now oppressed with the remembrance of the same, I cannot be quiet day nor night until I enjoy her presence, and be linked in marriage to her whom I esteeme dearer then my life. Now Lorenzo my wil is, that in the secrettest manner thou maist, thou provide thy selfe with such sommes of money necessarie for this iourney, and accompanied with thy trustiest servants, speede thee unto my beloved, and in my name greete her from me, and deliuer this peece of ring for a token which she gaue me at our departure: by vertue of which commaund her to come to me with all speede, I signe to giue true testimonie from whome thou comest, and intreat her Lorenzo as the wife of thy Lord. See thou apparell her as becometh my wife, before she approach the confines of our Dukedome. This businesse committed unto thee, perfourme as faithfully as my hope is in thee, and bind Andrugio for euer to be Lorenzos. Thou knowest my mind, my Treasurer shall furnish thy iourney with

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treasure, to whom thou shalt haue my warrant, make speed
therefore as thou tenderest his life that holdeth thee deere.

Lorenzo hauing heard his long discourse, humbly thanked his Grace for the good opinion he had conceiued of him protesting that his loyaltie and dutie should in such sort bee employed, as he might iustly say at his returne, Lorenzo is faithfull, honest, and firm, whereof my grattious Lord (quoth he) haue no farther care, but according to your trust, all shall be perfourmed, as your heart shall wish or desire.

Lorenzo slept litle time, but hauing made his provision, departed the citie and iorned day and night, vntill hee came to the deserts of Guscigno, where the beloued of his Lord made her abode: to whome Andrugio his messenger came not before he was looked for, nor so soone by many yeares, for that she neuer heard of him since his going first to Siena, by reason of his troubles. Lorenzo hauing recovered y^e Millers house, enquired after the maiden, to whose presence being come, in reuerēt maner (more then she would or wished) doing his duetie, he recounteth vnto her Andrugio his message, declaring that it was his pleasure that presently she come vnto him, for that the time was now come that all thinges to her content and his desire should be perfourmed.

Sufania when her hope was all past, euer to see or heare of him againe, hauing bene absent so long, and neuer coulde heare any tydings of him, neither in his owne countrie, nor at Siena, whether he iorned from her fathers house, thought verily he had bene dead, wherefore on the suddaine could not tell what to say: yet viewing the peece of ring, which she did well know, she imagined that he was liuing, wherefore after diuers questions, demanded of Andrugio his successe in his absence both abroad and at home, answered, what you are I know not, wherefore I beseech you of pardon, if vnrue-
rently I vse you, or not as becometh your calling, my bring-
ing by is rustick as you see in this poore cottage, and your
self a meere stranger vnto me. Touching my Lords demand

to Fortune.

I know not what to say, being not at myne owne disposing, but to be gouerned by them of whom I receiued my being: as I haue euer by them bene ruled, so wil I of them be aduised, yet my Lords loue is decre vnto me, yea dearer then mine owne soule. Rest you I beseeche you sir this night with such homely viandes as this wildernesse affoordeth, welcome I assure you shall be your best cheare, and at my Fathers home-comming you shall know more.

Lorenzo wearied with trauaile, accepteth her offer, peelding thanks for that fauour.

Susania descauning on Lorenzo his message, imagineth whether her heart was ioyful or no, hauing so good a cause, and her hope so great to come from a Millers cottage to a prince, & liue in court honoured of Nobles. This happy tydings could Susania with much paine indure to conceale any time, wherefore shee dispatcheth a messenger in all hast to seek her father and mother, vnto whom being come, shee recounteth at large Andrugio his message deliuered by Lorenzo, with his happie successe, and attayning vnto hys dukedome, with all beseeching her father and mother, as they loued and tendered the preferment of their childe, not to gainsay the will of the noble Andrugio, for that their loues had bene equall, & fortune had done them both wrong to separat them so long, seeing it stood with the pleasure of God, after many daies of trouble to her louing Lord, and no little sorow to her selfe, that they might inioy ech other, his francke consent, with her mothers, might be granted.

Thus with ioy, the toonge faltering in hir mouth, shee could not utter a word more, which the father perceiuing, beganne to censure the cause, proceeded of great ioye and entering into iudgement of all causes, which might be preiudiciall to his childe, as also the desire he had to see her well bestowed, the old beldam his wife calling their heads together, in priue counsell, betwixt them it was agreed that she should goe, although nature would hardly brooke to forgoe her, especially so farre, that all thinges considered, and

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that their faith was plighted one to another, they would not be denied, wherefore at supper Lorenzo being placed at such homely viandes, as could be sodainly prepared, the aged father said, Gentleman of Saxonic, if my Andrugio, your Duke were present, he could be but welcome, and so he hath bene to this simple cottage, so assure your selfe you be, and thankes I pect you with my heart for this paynes taken for the benefite of my poore childe, for whome without boast I may with teares report, I haue and euer had a fathers care. Many a good yeomanly sonne, yea, and sonnes of gentle race, hath shee forsaken, proffering their loue with large dowries vnto her. But since the time of your Dukes lodging in my house, she neuer had anie minde of mariage, taking lesse pleasure in hearing of any such offer then in ought else might be spoken: my selfe could neuer tell the cause, but that my wife her mother did partly vnderstand somewhat of her mind, being heauy, sad, & diuers times sickely. When other youth spent their times in pleasure and sporting, to recreate themselves, she would waile and lament in such sorte, as it hath not a little greued me to behold. But (my Lord) what was concealed then, I partly gesse at now, it was loue I see, the loue of my Lord Andrugio, who by what meanes I know not hath obtayned her heart and faithfull liking, and since I heare by the report of my daughter, howe constant hee remaineth in hys choyse, not respecting her base birth, and that I holde it the wil of God, after manie perils, they should inioy ech others companie, I am content she shalbe at his graces obedience and my selfe with what I haue at his commaundement, praying God to make them in loue so happie, as the fortunatest that euer liued. And this by the way my good Lord, since it hath pleased him amongst manie others to make you the man shoulde take charge of my childe, and to bring her to his presence, I doe herewithall beseeche thee as thou art noble, and bound to defend virgins to the better, most of thy power, to be ayding vnto her, not suffering her

to Fortune.

to be induried in what thou mayest remedie, I knowe her aduancement shall haue manie enemies, who spiting that she from so base birth shuld be so exalted, wil enuy her happinesse, and be a meane to set discord betwixt the duke and her, by which meanes she may be scorned, & cast from hys presence, and so constrained to seeke her fortune in miserie. wherefore to preuent insuing euils, as thou tenderest the loue of thy princely Lord, that sent thee, sweare vnto me, by that order of nobilitie, which thou professest in all extremities to be ayding vnto her, and in Gods name at your pleasure, she shall accompanie you.

Lorenzo listening to the large discourse of this kinde father, noting the care he had for his childe, whome he tenderly loued, presuming on his Lordes constancie, bowed with sollemne othes vnto him, that so long as euer it pleased the deuine deities, to preserve him with life, hee would stand and abide a father, and firme friend vnto her, and in all honest causes maintaine her iust quarrell against all men, yea if it were against the duke himselfe.

Time now is come when they must depart: wherefore these aged parentes might not forbear the shedding of teares in moste abundant wise, the sight whereof moued Lorenzo to great pitie, yet passing ouer the extremitie thereof, with a heauie heart, and countenance warne for her departure, he saith, my louing daughter, how I haue nourished thee euer from thy birth, thou canst partly conceaue by my fauours shewed, since thou hadst reason to knowe good from euill, in hope to finde thee a comfort to thy mother and me, nowe in the enclining of our dayes to the earth, which how neere they drawe, he that gaue vs breath best knoweth. But contrarie to my expectation, thou art now parting from vs, into a better place, where thou hast few friends, and lesse acquaintance: wherefore it behoueth thee to haue the more regard to thy behauiour: for I tell thee my Sufania, promotions haue manie enemies & fewe friends. the mightiest are hated when the poore liue securely, wherefore as it is the pleasure of the highest, to make

L

then

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thee the best of thy kinne, haue these preceptes in minde, and doubtesse thou shalt inioy thy estate in the lesse perill: Let not thy falling make thee proud nor disdainfull, but remember alwaies from whence thou camest: if thou be humble, thy nobles in better sort will loue thee, but being ambitious, wil disdain thee, & seeke thy destruction, Emperours and mightie potentates, though ambition haue bene foyled, and thrust from their seates of dignitie. Then let not this estate make thee proud, least it fare worse with thee. Be duefull to thy Lord and husband: if hee loue thee, be thou kind to him: if he be froward, do not with crosse speeches moue him, for odious speeches will make thy honest behauiour lothsome vnto him: if he be impatient with anie, let thy industrie be to pacifie him, and for thine owne part, let not his speeches, spoken neuer so greatly in thy disgrace moue thee to choller, so shalt thou shew thy selfe wise. If he haue any imperfection, do not as common gossipps do vpon their quaffing reueale it, for that is a most odious fault, and it shal make thee a laughing stocke to others, and cause thy honestie to be attempted by ruffians, and such as would gladly see thy dishonour, for all honest women will feare that, which is commonly spoken of dishonest women. Briefly please thy Lord and husband in all thinges, but especially in such as draw neerest his inclination, loue him intirely aboue all others, be patient and learne to winke at many thinges he doth the prudent in thy household affaires, careful to bring vp thy children, saye spoken, kinde and courteous to his nobles, and all others, plentiful in honourable works, a friend to the honest, and a verie enemy to light yowthes, as thy leysure from thy Lord shall permit: spend thy tyme in reading learned sayings of the wise, for by suche honest occupations women are withdrawn from other vniuersall exercises. Thus as a father haue I in my blunt maner, prescribed thee to gaine the loue of all men, and continue the good opinion of thy Lord. Time draweth on, and thy protectour Lord Lorenzo attendeth thee, wherefore I will detain

to Fortune.

keaine thee no longer, but with my blessing commend you
to the protection of him that best knoweth how to protect
thee, and so sweet daughter farewell.

Thus after kind teares spent on either side for their
departure, Lorenzo contenting bountifullie his host for his
entertainment, they betake theselues to their desired iorney.
Duke Andrugio which had long expected to heare of his
best beloued, is now certified by a messenger, that she with
Lorenzo are within two daies iourney of the court: vpon
which newes, he summoneth his nobles and estates, com-
manding them to be ready to accompanie him the next day,
in the most sumtuous sort they might, to giue entertainment
vnto a stranger, comming from far to see him, & which was
accordingly performed in such wise, as Andrugio by their
diligence in fulfilling so sodainly his desire, thought himself
most highly honoured by them. Thus all thinges perfour-
med as his heart could wish, the next morning Andrugio
with his train set forward to meete Susania at the house
of Signior Anthony a knight of his court, where hee had
appointed to meete her: vpon which iourney, as hee trauey-
led, hee acquainted diuers of his chiefest Lordes with
the pretence of his comming from the Court, & with what
zeale he had honoured and loued that mayden, which they
went to meete: beseeching them of that loue they did beare
vnto him and his deceased father, to make account of his
loue, and to do her that reuerence which belonged vnto the
Lady and wife of their Duke, for that she was the object
of his heart, and the onely one that should participate with
him in loue.

The Nobles which harkened to his protestation so vn-
suspected, began diuers waies to coniecture of the same, his
friends and trustie followers conceiuing the best: others
whose loue was not so firme, as it pleased them: yet all alike
to content him, gaue their willing consentes, that if hee
had planted his liking, it were against reason & their othes
of dutie and obedience, to gainsay what liked him. Therefore

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wishing unto him much ioy of what his heart desired, they had God prosper them both to their shone content.

Passing the way in parlie, they arrive at the house of Signiour Anthony, who glad to see his Lord and master within his mansion, had provided the cheare hee could come by, bidding him and his traine most friendly welcome. To tell you the exceeding ioy of those two Lovers at their meeting were needlesse, but suppose how welcome the sight of any long desired thing is unto you, so shall you easily gesse in what happie estate those lovers thought themselves.

After some conference had betwixt the Duke and his beloved, with the consent of their nobles, their marriage was determined, and presentlie in the house of Anthony was it constituted to both their contentes, and the liking of all such as loved him, who with a generall consent made outward apparance of their good consents.

This marriage performed, and some time spent in pleasure, as tilting, masking, and other pastimes in honor of the wedding, the Duke with his new adopted Princessse thanking their friendly Host for their entertainment, had him farewell, departing towards their shone pallace, wher they were of the citizens (wher he kept his court) most royally received, each one crying with a generall voice, God save their Duke and Duchesse.

The terme of two yeares and sometime more was passed in exceeding ioyes betwene those kind Lovers, in which time God sent the two faire & goodly children, to wit, one sonne and one daughter to their great ioy, and reioycing of all the commons. But as the vertuous bee alwaies most subiect to the enuie of the worlde, so in time the fire of hatred which had bene long smothering in the bosomes of Gonsalo and Flodericus, two Nobles of Sazony began to breake forth into hot burning flames, in such sort that raising their tenants, kin, and followers, perswading them their intents were honorable, and for the benefite of their common wealth, Thus they assembled a great armie and encam-

encamped themselves within two small miles of the court, seeking by al the meanes they could to draw vnto them such as fauoured the Duke and his.

The newes of this rebellion brought vnto Court, the Duke marueiling much what should be the cause: presently to preuent insuing mischiefes, as well as for his own preservation, dispatcheth with all speed postes for all his Nobles, commanding them with al the power they could make to repaire to h court. In h mean time himself prouideth (as he best could) for the safety of the city. While he had takē this course, being thereunto aduised by his friends, hee dispatcheth his chiefe Heraught at armes vnto those two rebellious Nobles, commanding them to dislodge their armie, and to yeeld themselves to his mercie. But they whose stomackes were sharply bent to see his confusion, without ceasing refuse his honorable message, and by his Heraught desired him commanding most arrogantly the Heraught to tell the Duke, that their pretence was to subuert the dukedome and to intine with shame both the Duke and his beggerlike Compere from so honorable a place, as the Dukedome of Saxonic: adding further, that in the life time of his father their late Soueraigne, they were sworne to maintaine the estate and honorable reputation of the Dukes house, which he his sonne did not regard, but had by toyning in marriage with a base Person, ruinated his posteritie, and made their bloods ignoble, refusing for her many of honour and great reputation which were offered him. Wherefore Heraught (quoth Flodericus) say thus vnto the Duke, that if he wil condescend vnto such demandes of our, as wee shall set downe, we shall accordingly submit our selues vnto him and acknowledge our duties: otherwise we are resolved to die in that cause which we haue taken vpon vs to maintain.

The Heraught hauing heard their answeres, certified the Duke of their intences, wherewith hee was not a litle grieved: yet as one tendering carefully his Ladys loue and welfare, he still concealed the same from her, detr.

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mining rather to end his life, then part with his heartes desire: in such account held he the loue of his Lady, whose courteous behauiour was such, as gained the good liking of all his subiectes, from the best to the meanest, onely those two Nobles, of enuie that the Duke refused the daughter and heire of Gonsalo, sought his destruction.

To be brieve, so strong were those two Rebels, that they besieged the citie round about in such wise, y^e in short a time their victuals began to waxe scarce, and no remedie, but either they must all starue, or trie their fortunes by the sword. The Duke thus resolved with his company, aduising on him that in many miseries had bene his protector, y^ellued out on vnawares upon his enemies and fought with them a sharpe and grieuous battell, in which many of his company miscaried, and hee compelled to flie, losing the field: at which time his enemies taking their aduantage, pursuing them that fled towards the citie, entered pell mell committing great slaughters of his people, in the end being quietly possessed of the same, they sought for the Duke, who was not to be found. Therefore to be reuenged on the Duchesse, they determined to put her to the sword, for whose life the common people with one generall voice made earnest intercession, at whose request she was preserved, but banished with her two Infants, commanded vpon paine of her life neuer to returne againe, within any part of the regiment of the Dukedome of Saxonic.

This cruell sentence pronounced against the Duchesse, caused a number, which dutifully honoured the Lady for her courteous conditions, to shed teares, & to be earnest Suiters for her, but in vaine, for she must needs depart to seeke her fortune, where it best pleased the giuer of al good, to guide her.

This wofull Lady banished in such wise as you heare, her onely companions were two waiting women, which for her loue exiled themselves, departed the Citie, so ouer-
char

charged with sorrow, as might haue moued a heart harder then adamant, to haue pitied her: yet for her owne part content to beare this yoke with patience, so that she might be certified of her Lord the Duke, who hiding himselfe in the desertes, durst not be knowne or seene of any one, but as fortune had parted them in extremitie, so God gaue them leaue to meete in their sorrowes, to comfort one the other. For loe, as he by chance was stragling, to gather roots and hearbes to relieue his hungrie stomacke, hauing no other sustenance, hee heard the pitifull lamentation of a woman, complayning her hard fortune, and buttersly weeping ouer her tender babes, beseeching God to shew that mercie vnto a distressed wretche, in her aduersitie, to grant the duke to meete them.

Andrugio which with a woefull heart had listened to this sorrowfull plaint, knowing well the voyce of hys deare Ladie, was so ouercharged with griefe, y^e he could not well speake: but recouering his senses, he cryeth out on fortune which wrought his mileries, but more exclaymed against the fates and destinies, that had suffered him to escape with life, to see his Ladie and sweete babes to indure such extremitie. After he had long debated with himselfe, what was best to be done in such an exigent, he entered y^e place where his Ladie late, rocking on her knee the sweete babe, which was a daughter: whose face, when the good Ladie beheld howe ioyfull shee was I neede not relate, onely this let me tell you, his presence cryed from her heart the greatest griefe. After this ioyfull meeting, and that they had recompted one to the other, their nuthays, Andrugio as one carefull for his Ladie and infantes, more then for himselfe, bethought manie waies of one especiall, by which they might haue comfort: calling to minde his friend and companion, Galastino now duke of Millaine, he determineth not to rest in any place untill he could recouer his countrie. And thus setting his mind throughlie so to doe, he with his Lady and two chldren, with the two waiting Gentlewo-

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men, with all speed they might, repaired to the next port towne, which was within three or foure leagues of them, where they embarked themselves, for Millaine, selling such ietwels as they had to pay their passage.

The winde serving fitly for their purpose, within short time, they discover the high landes of the countie, & within small time after, the citie of Millaine, whether by the grace and helpe of God they came safely, and being in an evening late, tooke their lodging in an ostrie, where they recreated themselves, two or three dayes, one ioyning in the others companie, hoping of entertainment of the duke.

When Andrugio had repoled himselfe and that his heart was a little settled to quiet, being out of the danger of his otome countrey: taking fit opportunitie, when the Duke of Millaine with his nobles were pleasantly passing the time, in beholding the beauty of the sweete springing fieldes, Andrugio presented himselfe before him, yet not offering to speake unto him, nor as he had any thing to say: but as one amongst other great companies, which came to see him, the duke casting his eyes on all sides, to the people which reioyced in his presence. Amongst the companie beholding a stranger, first noted his apparell, then the person, whiche by his face hee did verie well remember, yet doubtful whether it should be the same he supposed, for that he stood so simple, not becomming the estate of the duke of Saxonie: but his minde not being yet satisfied, whiche was continually on him, commanded one of the Peeres to seek him, describing his apparell and to inquire of what countrie he was, and to bring him unto his presence, which accordingly was accomplished.

When Andrugio came before the duke, and that by the noblemen hee was advertised: the stranger was of Saxonie, the duke knowing well his face, knewe him to be the duke of Saxonie, and lighting from his horse, embraced him most lovingly, marveling what had happened, that thus one becomming the estate of his maiestie, he came unto

Millaine

to Fortune.

Millaine, vnto whome Andrugio, with teares in friendly
wise revealed the miserie he was vtuen vnto by his nobles
with the banishment of his Ladie and childre, which ruth-
full historie in such wise deliuered by Andrugio, his friend
moued the duke to pitie the distressed estate of him and his,
and with a heart of loue and bountie, bad him to comforte
himselfe, and what was in the Dukedome of Millayne, to
hold and take as his owne, protesting withall, that none in
the worlde was more welcome vnto his court, then An-
drugio the duke of Saxonie. Thus enquiring where the
duches remained, he gaue present charge to diuers his no-
bles, with his own coche to go to her lodging, & in the best
and honourablest maner they might, to bring her to the
court. This friendship of the dukes so vnerpected of An-
drugio, so ouertopped his oppressed heart, as with the same
hee was almost overcome: whereof hee thanked God
most highly, and next, his maiesty beseeching God to main-
taine the honor he had, with all happinesse, and free from
the oppression of all foes whatsoever.

Andrugio settled in Millaine, where hee was welcome
as to his owne home, coulde not content himselfe in this
wise, but grieved in minde to see his miserie, more excla-
med on fortune, for this cruel part, then for all the sorowes
he had indured: so carefull was he, for his sweete children,
p he did neyther quietly possesse sleepe, nor without trouble
of minde eate his meate, wherefore entering into conside-
ration of his present state, waying what he was by birth,
and what pleasure he had possessed, well considering what
an vnsstable goddesse they serue, which are fortunes dar-
lings, growing into contempt of all worldly thinges, for
that hee noted their frailtie, and diligently searching the
ioyes of heauenly motions, determineth for euer to aban-
don himselfe from all humane societie, in despight of for-
tune, and the vaine inticing baytes of the worlde whiche he
seeth is transitorie, he sequestreth himselfe from the worlde,
onely contenting himselfe in contemplation. And thus ha-

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uing thorowly resolved what to doe, in an euening late, when all men draw homewards from their solace, and pastimes abroad, to ioyes of their friends at home. Andrugio vnknown, or without acquainting anie man of his pretence, withdrew himselfe into a desert, twentie miles distant from Millaine, where fearing a place, which was by all likelihoodes, least frequented, he labored untill he had builded in the hollowe of a hard rocke, a proper lodge, where the remainder of his life he finished contented with rootes, hearbes and such prouision as the earth naturally yeelded: where when hee had spent some time, in continuall prayer, and heartes ease, and saw the quiet content hee imoyed in that life, entering into the manifold miseries of all Christians, he exclaimeth on that fickle goddesse fortune, in these bitter tearmes.

O fortune constant, in thy vnconstancie, if there be such a dame as phantasticall Poets affirme, whose blindness cannot discern the noble from the peasant, the Lord from the slaue, nor the seruant from the mayster: cruell art thou which takest thy pleasure in ouerthrowing monarchies and exalting the base, onely of presumption, to derogate to thy name, a title of Godhead. But what vaine opinions they hold, y^e tearme thee a goddesse, are easily to be perceaued, if they enter int^o it: for what can the seruant doe without sufferance of the maister, or what power hast thou, but by the sufferance of him that breaketh life into all his creatures: but for as much as they which haue by their supplications to thy blinde dictie, made thee more presumptuous, where they ought to tread thy honour vnder foote: for what is fortune, but a fayned deuise of mans spirit: an imagination without trueth: vpon which (as *Plutarke* sayth) a man cannot settle his iudgement, nor comprehend it, by any course of reason, so that by this we must confesse, that all thinges are ruled and guided by the prouidence of God, and not by blinde fortune: for when wee want the blessings of God through his anger which wee cannot appease, then
we

to Fortune,

We accuse our ignorance, and ingratitude towarde his maiestie, by the vnfortunate chance of humaine things falling through the common error of men, we attribute to fortune, As the Romans in elder times honored Fortune more then all the world, calling her the Nurse, Patronne and upholder of the citie of Rome: they builded for her, many sumptuous Temples, wherem they honored this proude dame by many tytles.

Silla hauing obtained the Dictatorship, yelded himselfe and al his actions to Fortune, sauing that he accounted himselfe the child of Fortune, and therupon took vnto him the name of happie Iulius Caesar, gaue a certaine assurance of the hope he had in Fortune, when entering a small Frigate, in so dangerous a storme, that the Maister was loth to waigh his anchor: he said thus vnto him be not affraide my friend, for thou carriest Caesar and his Fortune.

Agustus sending his Nephew to the warres, wished him to be as valiant as Scypio, and as fortunate as himself. These and many other of great prowes and magnificence, forgetting the honor of the true God, attribute al to fortune, which is nothing. Ah deceitfull Fortune, thou art easilie found, but hardly auoided. They that haue most laboured to paint out this fained Goddess say, that she hath a swift pace, a loftie mind, and a quick hope: they giue her light winges, and a globe vnder her feete, in her hande a horne of abundance, which she powreth forth vpon such as please her. Some put a wheele in her hand, which continually turneth, whereby they that are on the top, tumble down into the gulf of miserie: as histories are full of examples. Haniball that liued flourishing conqueror, died miserablie by poison. Eumenes one of Alexanders lieftnants, exalted to honour from a Potters sonne being taken prisoner, died of hunger. Pertinex a souldiour came to the Empire being a poore womans sonne, wherein raigning two monethes was slain by his gard. The Emperour probus was the sonne of a blacke smith, Maximua of a Gardiner. Iohn Leyden a

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butchers sonne of Holland was proclaimed King, and
raigned three yeares in great prosperite, and then subuer-
ted. Lo this is y^e steadfastnes of fortune, desirous of change,
whereby many are drawn by her sweete proffers to pride,
and many wilde grievous sinnes, to prouoke the Gods to
wrath, who seeing their insolencie throw them downe soo-
ner then they rise, of purpose to make their states more mi-
serable: let vs therefore wisely waigh what Fortune is,
and prepare our selues for all euents, for hee that is able to
say, Fortune, I haue preuented thee, I haue stopped vp all
thy passages, and closed vp all thy waies of enterance: that
man putteth not his trust in Fortune, but togeth in the dis-
courses of reason: riches, glorie, authoritie and honoz reioise
them most that stand least in feare of their contraries. wher-
fore in despite of Fortune vertue flourisheth. Then there is
no good but vertue, and no euil but vice, which is the contra-
ry to it. The vertuous man is only free and happy, the vici-
ous man bond and unhappie. Likewise beautie and the dis-
position of the body, maiestie and honours are al of no force:
But prudence, magnanimity, & iustice are anchors of grea-
test stay, which cannot be plucked vp by any tempest, and
prooueth the sayings of Socrates to bee true, that whole
troupes of souldiours, and heaps of riches haue bene strai-
ned often to yeele to the enemies which haue trusted in for-
tune, contemning the maiesty of God: For wise was that
noble prince Amcharlis a Barbarian, who was so desirous
to attaine vertue, that he left the kingdome of Silla to hys
yoongest brother, and went into Græcia to profit with So-
lon: saieing, that Fortune should neuer triumph ouer him,
but he would triumph ouer Fortune. These examples
(Andrugio,) may draw thee to vertue, and contemne the
world, persist in thy dooing, respect not the worlde, nor take
care for thy familie, thy friend Galastino faithfull and kind
to thee and thine, shall be to thy wife a husband, and a father
to thy fatherlesse infant: yea thou Galastino maist be in
the world a mirrour, to giue directions of true friendship:
for

to Fortune.

for besides thy selfe there is not one on the whole earth: thou that shovest thy mind by thy deedes: Thou prince of Mil-laine art the true friend that Socrates prescribeth to be the inestimable iewel of the world, not to bee valued by all the mortall things of the earth, which true friendship of thine maketh me happy in my unhappines, and my distressed familie blessed, for whom I trust in time, thy sword shall make passage vnto the Dukedome of Saxonic, and there plant my sonne Alphonso to succede his father in his right, yelding vnto those accursed traitors & their offsprings the reward of traitors.

O friendly Galastino thou mirrour of men, whose worthinesse cannot be valued, for thy faith and loyaltie to thy friend. Many in prosperitie like the fawning dogs wil follow a man, but in aduersitie flie from him like the full gorges hawke. O world where is the faith and friendship that hath bene in times past amongst men, taken from men because of their ingratitude to God. Histories tell vs of many which liuch, offering both life, landes, goodes and what els for their friends, signes of true fidelity, as Jonathan for David, we reade in holy wryt of their ieopardy one for the other, how often they? friendship was approued betweene them, neither could the desire of dignitie wato the affectionate loue & zeale of prince Jonathan from his David, albeit he knew that David should succeed his father in the kingdome, he being his heir. So we reade of Achylles and patroclus, Orestes and pyllides, both of them calling themselves by the name of Orestes, who was content to dy to saue the life of his companion. The like was Ephesus and Eueritus, and Damon and pythias of whose friendly loue Dyonysius the tyrant seeing the prooffe, the one beeing ready to die for the other, pardoned them both.

This is the tryall of true friendes: how many liueth at this day like those? Ah none, the more may our harts grieue to think thereon. Ambition, couetousnesse, pride, and hatred are so crept into the hearts of men, that they contemne God

A Defiance

and his dooings, their fathers, kin and welhollers. How many men lue in these daies, that for a kingdome would not murder his pynce, if he might do it without feare of death, which is a terrour to most men: How many men be there that for riches will not sticke to rob Temples, prophane the name of God, vse perurie, to the confounding of the honest and their posteritie: yea, to inioy what their otome fathers haue, seeke vntimely to cut of their liues that first gaue the breath: We daily see in our courts of iustice the father contend with the sonne, brother with brother, wife with husband, and al estates one with another cannot content themselves with their callings: all proceede from ambition, which is nothing but a desire to inioy honours, estates and great places. Further, it is a vice of excesse, and contrary to modestie: for that man (as Aristotle saith) is modest, which desireth honoꝝ as he ought, and as becommeth him, but hee that desireth it by vnlawfull meanes is ambitious. Howe many treasons hath there bin by ambitious men conspired against their soueraignes: We read of Frederick the thirde who after he had raigned thirtie yeares, was miserably murdered by Manfroy his bastard sonne, whom hee had made pynce of Trantimum, and after he had committed this paricide, popsoned his otome brother Conradus, & he might make himselfe king of Naples, Antonius & Geta successors in the Empire to Seuerus their father, could not suffer one the other to enioy so large a monarchy: for Anton. slue his brother Geta wth a dagger & he might rule alone. Soliman king of the Turks, when he heard the shoutes of his armie & they made for Sultan Multipha his son, he caused him to be secretly strangled in his chamber: & presently (being dead) to be cast out before his army, causing this speech to be uttered with a loud voice, there was but one God in heauen, and one Sultan vpon earth: within two daies after he caused his second sonne Sultan Soba to die, for & he wept for his brother: and Sultan Mahomet his thirde sonne because he fled for feare, leauing but one of his race alieue to succeed him.

These

to Fortune.

These are but the familiar examples of ambition in respect of those that cause men to put innocents to death, that they may the surer grow and increase: but no doubt for the most part, iust punishment follow the ambitious, for example to others, whereof there are unfaigned histories, which mention the same. *Marcus Crassus*, the richest man of his time, iealous of *Cesars* glorie, at the age of threelcore yeares, lead with a vaine hope of conquest, undertooke the warres against *Artaces*, king of the *Parthians*, in which warres himselfe was miserably slaine, with twenty thousand of his men, and ten thousand taken prisoners. *Marcus Marlinus* was for the like occasion throwne downe from a rocke, and brake his necke. Oh that men would consider the fruits of ambition: who would then willingly offend: for as the wise man saith, (comparing them to smoke dispersed with the wind) desire nothing more then to runne out their race in continuall cares, and miseries and calamities, depriving themselves of all liberty, and which is worst, pawning their soules, to an eternall and moste miserable thraldome.

Thus let vs detest ambition whiche is an infinite euill, and companion of pride, so much hated of God and men: let vs consider that wise precept whiche is written by the learned *Tarian*, to *Plutarcke*, *Jenuie* (sayde this good Prince) *Scipio Africanus*, and *Marcus Porcinus* more for their contempt of offices, then for the victories they haue gotten, because a conquerour, is for the moste part in fortunes power, but the contempt of officers, and refusall of honours consisteth onely in prejudice: let vs marke well this one saying of *Titus*, who vsing continuall sighinges at meate and elsewhere, being demanded the cause, said, I cannot keepe my selfe from sighing and complaining, when I call to minde, that this great honour which I haue, is not certaine but moueable, that my estates and dignities are in sequestration, and my life as it were layde in pawne or pledged vnto me. Let the saying of the good *Philip*, Prince

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of Macedonic, be well noted of great men, who one day falling in a place where wrestling was exercised, beholding his bodie printed in the dust, good Lord (quoth he) how little ground must we haue by nature, and yet we desire all the habitable world. Thus Andrugio, in thy solitarie life, thou must (hauing nought els to do) call to minde what (in studie) thou hast read, and in the bitter grieve of thy heart bewaile them that liue in those daies of iniquitie, and note how God suffereth all sortes of people to raygne, giuing triall by his abundant gistes to all estates, some to rule, some to obey, some to wealth, some to want, some to sickness, and all to moue either their aspiring heartes, by promotions, or their patience by trouble, whercof thou Andrugio hast iust experience, whiche being poong in respect of the aged, for yeares, hast continually tasted the rod of hys wrath: yet thanks to him that frameth my heart to beare with patience this crosse of pouertie, for in the ende shall it fall out with me the better: in this contented life, shall I be better pleased, then with al the aboundance of the world: for riches moue manie infirmities, which worldlings thinke not vpon, especially to the couetous minded, of whome *Aristotle* saith, the couetous man desireth to haue from all parts without reason, and vnjustly withholdeth that which belongeth to another: he is sparing and scantie in giuing, but excessive in receauing: the couetous man is neuer contented, but the more he hath, & more desireth: the medicine golde, and silver, which he seeketh increaseth his disease, as water doth the dropsie, and may most rightly be compared to mules, which carrie vpon their backs, great store of gold and treasure, yet eat nothing but hay. They indure labour in procuring, but want the pleasure of inioying: they inioy: neither rest nor libertie, whiche is of wise men most desired, but liue alwaies like slaues to their riches. Their greatest miserie is, that to increase and keepe their wealth, they care neither for equitie nor iustice, yea, for riches they contemne both God and man, and all threathings, and punishments

to Fortune.

nishmentes God hath pronounced against them, they liue without friendship and charitie, and lay hold on nothing but gaine, when they are placed in authoritie aboue others, they condemne the innocent, and finde alwaies some cleanly cloke to their bytting, making no difference, betwixt iustice and profite, wherefore we may well say, that couetousnesse is the roote of all euill, for what mischiefe is there not procured through this vice, from whence springes quarrels, strifes, lutes, hatred and enuie, theftes, polling, sacking, warres, murders, and popsoninges, but from hence God is forgotten, our neighbours hated, yea manie times the sonne forgiveth not the father, nor the brother, the brother: nor the subiect the Lord, for desire of gaine (O execrable impietie to be well thought of amongst vs,) it causeth men to breake their faith giuen, to violate all friendship, to betray their countrie and subiects, to rebell against their Prince, but note how manie mischiefes couetousnesse hath attempted: *Mulcasses* king of thieues, had his eyes by hys owne sonne put out, that he might cease vppon his riches: *Polimnestor*, sonne to *Priamus* of Troy, slew his kinsman *Polidorus*, to gaine golde, for the which Queene *Hecuba*, comming vnto him, without anie shewe of discontentment, hauing him alone in a chamber, with the helpe of her women, thrust out his eyes. The Emperour *Caligula* was so muche touched with couetousnesse, that there was no meane to get money, how vnlawfull soeuer it were, which he sought not out, insomuch that he layd a tribute vppon *Urino*, and solde his sisters gownes, whome he had banished, yet in one yeare of hys raigne, he spent prodigally 67. millions of gold, which *Tyberius* his predecessour had gathered together, I call now to minde the remedie of a couetous cardinall, who vled when his horsekeepers had giuen otes to his horses, to come downe all alone by a trap doze without light into the stable, and steale their otes, and carried them into his Garner, whereof hee kept the key himselfe so long as he continued this goinges and comminges

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that

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that one of his horsekeepers, not knowing who was the cheefe, hid himself in the stable, and taking him at the deed doing, with a pitchfork, so basted him that he left hym for dead, so that he was faine to be carried by foure men into his chamber. These with manie other examples may moue vs to open the inward meaning of the heart, by true prayer to the giuer of all goodnesse, and learne with modestie the heaping vp of worldly treasures, for godlinesse with contentation is great gaine, and let all Christians procure that God may be worshipped, dutie and reuerence giuen to superiours, concord be amongst equals, discipline to be vsed towards inferiours, patience towards enemies, mercie towards the poore: but men puffed with pride, ambition, couetousnesse and all vile sinnes, shew themselves ingratefull to God their maker, a vice odious in the sight of God and men: for note first, Adam hauing an vnthankfull minde to his creator, did eat the forbidden fruite contrary to his expresse commandement, to whome he owed all obedience: thus as by his ingratitude he neglected his obedience to his Lord, so his punishment was according to the manner of his offence, for his owne spirites, which were before at his commandement, rebelled against him, and led him to all kinde of sinne, which maketh vs inheritours of his curse, both of sinne and death, yet so dull is our vnderstanding, that dayly we fall into this crime of ingratitude, which we ought to hate in great measure, and to flee from it more then death it selfe, by reason of the evils whiche it hath brought vppon vs: but yet alas, wee see amongst vs too many vngrateful persons, who betraye them soonest by whome they receaue all their liuing and aduancement. And if vnthankfulness be familiar with the meane sort, let vs not thinke it farther off from those of higher calling, for vppon euerie light occasion, especialy if a man frame not himselfe to that vice, which they haue in greatest commendation, they easily forget all the seruice that hath bene done vnto them, by reason of some new come guest, who
will

to Fortune.

will shew himself a seruiceable minister of their pleasures this hapneth sonest whē men grow in greatnes, because commonly as their calling increase (not being instructed in vertue) they wax worse and worse in behauiour, but let them take this for an infallible rule, that an vnthankfull person cannot long retaine in his seruice an honest faithfull & good seruant. The ancient said not without good cause, that impudencie was the companion of ingratitude, for if no beast (as they say) is so shamelesse as an impudent, who is he that may be said to haue lesse shame thē an vnthankful body, for this cause of ingratitude. Among the lawes of Draco established among the Athenians, there was this, that if any man had receiued a benefit of his neighbor, & it were prooued against him, that he had not bene thankful for it, it was death to the offender.

Alexander the greatest for bountie, and Caesar for pardoning iniuries renowned in all the histories: of them both it is saide, that when Alexander had knowledge of an vnthankfull person he neuer gaue him any thing: nor Caesar neuer forgauē such. So grievously haue vertuous men hated ingratitude. It is reported of the Storke that she neuer bringeth forth young ones but shee casteth one out of the nest for the hire of the house where she lodgeth. But barbarous is that ingratitude in him that hath bene borne, bred, fostered and serued, and all with the sweate of another mans browes in the end to seke the spoile of al that is therein, euen the honor, and oftentimes the life of the Host. Wonderful are the mischiefes that happen to the vnthankfull, & many be the examples of the sorowes and punishments that haue followed ingratitude. Now if we desire to shunne this vile sinne, and to imitate the vertues of the noble minded to our vtmost power, this is our help if we alwaies esteeme the benefit which we receiue of another greater then it is, & repute that we giue for lesse then the worth, neither let vs as proud and vaine glorious men doe, who vaunt that they stand in need of none, disdain to receiue a pleasure of

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our friends, although they be of lesse calling then we, when they desire our friendship, for if it be an honest thing to doo good to all, that cannot be dishonest at all, for in requitall of friendship, a receiuer is as requisite as a giuer. Furthermore, this one other point, to banish this vnde linne from amongst men, if we requite double the good turne wee receiue one of another. Lastlie let vs recompence double, and reward without reckoning those good turnes which we receiue of others, rather fearing least we should be overcome in Benificence then in worldly reputation and glory.

But wretched Andrugio, the more thou enterest into those grieuous calamities of the world, the more thou callest to mind thy hard hap, and more, grieuest to thinke of thy sweete Susania, and her tender babes then of thine own penurie. But God which is iust, will with vengeance reward those traiterous reprobates which haue depriued their lawfull prince from his seat of iustice and maiestie, compelling him to seeke curtesie wher he may best get it, but worse shall befall them then that traiterous prince Iustinian, who selling for lucar of the kingdom the famous city of Constantinople, was crowned there and after three daies had his head cut off. pasanias a Captaine of Lacedemon, hauing receiued five hundred ducquets to betray the citie of Sparta, was by his father pursued to a church, whether he fled for sanctuarie, who commanded the walles to be closed, and so famished him, and after wards his mother cast his body to the dogs. Brutus cassius that would haue betrayed Rome was in the same maner serued. Darius king of Persia caused his sonne Ariabazā his head to be cut off, because he sought to betray his army to Alexander. Brutus did the like to his childre, who had conspired against their countrie, that king Tarquinius might reenter.

If those noble Princes rewarded treason, by the deaths of their children and most fauoured, then thinke not but your liues will be shortened for your conspiracie against me: yea, assure you that the righteous iudge of men wil punish it

to Fortune.

it in you, as he hath done in many others. The remembrance of your crimes, with the thoughtes of iust iudgment to bee inflicted vpon you, driueth my oppelled heart into a world of griefe: but if I had searched so narrowly into the thoughtes of you (accursed Traitors) I had bene happy in this my unhappines, but wise men haue taught mee that miserie is necessarie.

That man (saith the wise man Bias) is able to beare miserie which hath bene trained in the same from his youth. And Dyonisius the elder said, that man that hath learned from his youth to be unhappie, shal bear his yoke the better which hath ben subiect to it in times past.

Demetrius said, that he iudged none more unhappie then he which neuer tasted of aduersitie. And Cicero iudgeth him most happy that thinketh no miserie how grieuous soeuer it be, or intollerable, or dooth any way discourage him. Nothing (saith plutarch) is euill that is necessarie: by which word necessary, Cicero vnderstandeth whatsoeuer hapneth a man by destinie, is necessarie, and we ought to beare it with patience as that can not bee auoided. Socrates speaking with a deuine spirit said, y when we shal be deliuered from this body wherein the soule is, as an opster in y shel, we may then be happy, but not sooner: and that felicitie can not be obtained in this life, but that we must hope to enioy it perfectly in an other life. If death be the happines of men, how happie had I bene, if in my cradle I had payde the due I owe vnto death, the ioies which follow death, if our fraile nature could conceiue, and allow were such comfort to al as wel to the happy, as the miserable, that none would desire life: for my owne part hauing tried the happines of worldly men, riches, of couetousnesse so called, and consider the frailtie of it, and the abuse of men, I chose in these deserts to abandon me from al humaine fellowship, costly fare & soft lodging, losing the company of my louing wife, & tender infants, liuing w such roots & other things as y earth yeeldeth, for y I haue scene y tyrannies vsed toward y pooe

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Such wilful robberies and spoiles made of miserable people, so great discensions, so many hurts and miseries in the common weale, such oppression, such partiall iudgement, such couctousnes, such tohoridome, and all this so abounding: The bringing of which to memory, maketh mine eyes blind, my tongue to solter, my members quauer, my heart paine my intrals breake, and my flesh consume: it is more griefe to see them with mine eyes, and to heare them with mine eares. Therefore seeing the fountaine of all happinesse consisteth in contentation, I will purge my selfe of all perturbations, which may hinder the tranquillitie of the spirit, so the end eternall thinges may bee vnto mee more welcome and familiar when I shal know how to vse them. But resolved I am in despite of fortune (whose banding hal from my infancy I haue bene) to continue the remainder of my life in this sweete contentation: for as she (most blinde and fained Goddess) hath taken my honors, my goods and worldly dignities may vtter me in disgrace with the people, but she cannot make my honest mind enuious, which hath alwaies bene noble and valiant, nor take from mee this settled mind, neither by the reuolutes of my life, which is locksome vnto me, nor by any grieuous or troublesome thinge that can befall me.

Thus with teares ceasing his mournful speeches, betwailing with heauinesse of heart the worlds ingratitude, wee leaue him to his solitary life for a season in those deserts.

The



THE VVARRES OF GALASTINO
Duke of Millaine.



Lodericus, and his fellows companions, ruling now in Saxony, thought themselves sure of their seats, having banished all those that might claime by right, any title in the Dukedome, vsurping ambitious titles, and galling theyr commons with taxes, and all other manner of pollinges, that their subiectes rather did chuse to die then liue in that seruitude: yet remedie was none, ease theselues they could not, but growing vnder that heauie yoke, whereto they were bound: Beseeche God, who sheweth mercie to all people, to take their cause in hand, and reuenge the banishment of their good Duke vpon those tyrantes, and their progenie, whose Lamentations, and sorrowfull playntes, so often poured forth, yet it pleased the Lord to heare, and as he deliuered his children Israel from the thraldome of Egypt, Hierusalem from the bondage of Babylon, so assisted hee by that famous noble prince Galastino Duke of Millaine, to reuenge the wronges, offered his friend and lawfull Prince Andrugio, and relieue his poore subiectes, which liued in great thraldome long time, with earnest inquirie being spent by Galastino, in searching out the abode of his Andrugio, who could not be heard of: for all that might be done, for whose absence the sorrowe that was made, is not to be tolde. When Galastino sawe all diligence that could be vsed, might not bring him tidinges of the Duke, he commoneth all his nobles & counsell together, beseeching

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beseeching their friendly aduise, in a matter of waight, which he shoulde impart vnto them, the nobles that with duetie loued him, and whose zeale was such as becommeth subiectes to their soueraignes, humbly sought his excellencie to declare what hee had to say, promising to their vtmost power, to counsell him therein, with all the furtherance they could, & accomplish in anie reasonable sort, what hee should require, Galatino who found his nobles, as euer before, duetifull and readie to obey his will, gaue them all moste hartie thanks for the same, and after a little pause taking, thus sayd.

Nobles and you states of Millaine, it is not vnknowne vnto you all, in what miserable seruitude the poore subiects of my good friend the duke of Saxonie, haue and doth lue since the exile of their lawfull Duke, by those vsurping Discreantes, which haue nowe the gouernment, whose wrong offered their liege Lord, and my friend, I am determined to reuenge, neither will I willingly suffer men of so vile condition to lue, that wrongeth their soueraigne, whome God hath placed, nor suffer the innocent babes, of so honourable a prince, as the duke of Saxonie, to lose their rightfull inheritance in the Dukedome, my selfe that inoy amongst you my birthright, and title of this countrey, haue many heyes to succeed me, when my earthly trunkke shall peeke his due to death, vnto whome I cannot deuine what may be offered, yet hope the best, and relie vpon your fidelities, whome I haue euer found loyall, but if the deuill, by ambition, wherewith hee infecteth manie of high estate, should tempt you in such sorte, not to be content with their degree, and should procure the vulgar sorte, to vse the like crueltie to mine, the memorie of my actions and zeale, in defending innocents, remayning fresh in memorie, may be a terrour vnto those so euill disposed, who waying their wicked pretence, before they begime, may assure themselves that God which is righteous, will rayse some one, of noble disposition, to reuenge their wronges, as by hys sufferance
I am

to Fortune.

I am nowe drawn to the like in the behalfe of those thy children of my friend: the noble duke of Saxonic, for whom (on my honor) my care is as much as for mine own, neither wil I alter my determinatiō herein, to be made a monarche of the world, but to my utmost power, will so prosecute, what I determine herein, that in the cause I wil adventure my person, where such as loue me, will follow me.

The nobles which noted how earnest the duke was in uttering his long oration, thought it no time to delay their opinions, what they iudged of the enterpryse, yet were they driuen to a non plus, what to answer so soudainly: to denie his demandes and earnest request, might breede suspicion of their loyaltie, then which they rather chuse to die: againe to aggrauate him, to the attempt which was before, so hotely bent, was but to put oyle to quenche the fire, wherefore after small deliberation, they answered.

Honourable Lord, whose will hath bene held amongst vs for law, Knowe dread soueraigne, that we haue with aduise considered of your long protestation, and most highly commend in you so honourable a minde, and haue noted what honour it will be, to you and your posteritie for euer, to regard the estate of the widowed & fatherlesse, such we terme that distressed good Ladie, the duchesse of Saxonic and her infantess, for whome we haue often bene minded to intreate, as in honour we are bound, that they inioying their right, might ease your maiestie of a great charge, and requite on those rebellious traytors, a facte so odious according to their desertes, knowing that traytors, whiche seeke the subuersiō of their prince, ought not to liue. Holie wit sheweth manie examples, howe God punished suche vsurpers, where is commaunded that none shall lift theyr sword against their annoynted, who on the earth are his vice regentes. *Dauid* when *Saule* sought his life, came into the tent of the king, finding him sleeping, yet durst not touch him, for feare of vengeance from heauen. If treason were helde in such contempt in those dayes, howe ought it

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much more now to be despised, Proceede therefore, noble Prince, and let the reuer rare you haue of these innocents whose cause you take in hand, deserue such honour, in the courtes of all christian Princes, that no taske may be, but of Galastino, duke of Millaine, and his honourable reuenge of those traytors, that draw their swordes against their soueraigne: and hauing vanquished, the villaines, let their punishmēt be answerable to their desertts, that it may breed terrour to all such as shall euer attempt the like action, and remaine to the end of all thinges, in memorie: towardec the performance of which, of our own cost, we freely allow ten thousand men, well furnished for warre, with all charge, wages, and what else to them belongeth, besides our owne persons, to attend your excellencie, which shall be readie, speedily awaiting your gracious pleasures.

The Duke which found no lesse then hee expected at the handes of his nobles, was so raiued with ioy, that it amazed him, wherfore yelouing them such honourable courtellie, as their large and friendly offer required, he thus replied.

Noble friends, on whose sweettie our wellfare consisteth, Thankes for this friendship, & so like valse for many others past: more haue you honoured me by your consent to this my suite, then I list now to deter, but assure you on the word and maiestie of a Prince, that your friendships shall neuer be forgotten. Touching my determination for our iournie to Saxonie, knowe that our purpose is (by the assistance of God, whome I trust fauoureth our good intent, and will helpe vs according to equitie of our cause) within two monethes, to be ready for our intended voyage, wherefore, as you honour me, see that you accomplishe your late offers, against that time prefixed, vnto whiche they saythfully promise. dinner time Drawing on, the duchesse aduertised the duke therof, who muted his nobles thereto, where the Duke relateth vnto the duchesse of Saxonie his parlie with the nobles of Millaine, with their courtous offers, for the benefite of her, and her children: which newes was so
pleasing

to Fortune.

pleasing vnto her, as nothing could ioy her more, hoping by that meanes the Duke her husbands children shoulde enjoy their lawfull right, and shee her selfe liue to see the same. Thus with much pleasant party passed they dinner, carousing to their happy successe and fortunate iorney, vntil some of them haue taken such colde in the handes, that they might not stand on their feet. Time that worketh al things commaundeth these Nobles away, each making to their home: wherefore taking humble leaue of the Duke and the two Duches, they depart, carefull of what the Duke gaue them in charge, to let all thinges in a readines against the time appointed.

The Nobles gone, the Duke calleth his captaines, and mentit for charge, geuing them warrant for leueng his power, with great command that his company shoulde bee of the best and ablest men in the Dukedome, which with care they see fulfilled, according to the truste reposed in them.

The Duchesse for whose sake those preparations were made, conceiued such ioy at the same, that she thought euery moneth a ycare, and euery day a moneth, vntil shee saw to what happy end the Dukes pretended iorney would happye vnto, often commending in her heart the faithfullnesse of the Duke of Millaine to his friend. In recounting whereof she shed many bitter teares for Andrugio her beloued lord and husband, sometime exclaiming against both Gods and men, for his losse who so dearely she loued. The remembrance of whom was likely diuers times to bereaue her of life, yet in the midst of her sorowes, when she beheld the young prince, a liuely picture of the exiled Duke, how often with sweet imbracings woulde she kisse the tender youth, bathing his tender cheeks with teares distilling in abundance, choate with extreame griefe of heart from her eies, hoping yet before death shoulde shut those eyes of hers to see him, and once against to enjoy his companie.

The young prince growing to some discretion, beeing

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thirtene yeares of age, well noting the sorrowe and heavynesse of his mother, would by circumstances enquire of the Duke his father, of his country, and the cause why hee left the same, with many other questions, of which when the Duchesse had resolved him, & made relation of each thinge which he demanded, describing also at full, how ready his subiectes loved him, and in what regard they held her, it would moue the prince often to shed teares, wishing that his yeares had bene such that he might haue remembered his father, and of power to reuenge his wrong, desiring if it bee the pleasure of God to endow him with life, so thoroughly to requite those iniuries vpon the usurping traitors, that all the chronicles in the world should record the same in memorie. And so comforteth his mother in the best sort hee could, saying her a while to be content, till God had placed him in his right, whereof he hoped in short time to bee possessed.

Those wordes of comfort proceeding from so Greene a head: the Duchesse did much admire, & no doubt had grate pleasure in her soone, of whom she had no litle ioy, whose education was answerable to his byrth, hauing learned men of all sciences to read vnto him, by whome hee profited in learning so excellently, that it was rare to finde any in Billaine, or the whole Dukedom comparable vnto him for study and other agility of the body, for which he bare the prize from all of his yeares, whose conditions were so answerable to the noble Duke his father, that if any man did knowe the one, would suppose soone who the other should be.

Whilist the Duke of Billaine was furnishing his power, newes was brought him, that Flodericus one of the usurpers had by poison brought his companion vnto his longest home: to auerge whose wrongs Sextilius son and heir vnto Gonsalo deceased, had gathered all his allies, kinsmen and friends in armes, and was in the fieldes with intent to suppress Flodericus, and claime in right the Dukedome in trueth and lawfull succession belonging vnto neither of them.

This

This newes of the subdaine Galastino could not well be
leeue till hee was by letters from diuers Nobles of Saxo-
nie, and friends to the noble Andrugio and his: thereof
aduertised, whereof being thorowly resolved, he hasteneth
his powers, and bearing a gale to serue their turne, After
many sorrowfull farewells, and womanly teares shed by
both the Duches, he taketh the sensibole honorable pur-
pose fauoured by God the maintainer of truth, brought
them safe to the roade of their desire: anchoring in the night,
perceiued of none by reason of the gloomy weather, Gala-
stino commandeth a bote to be prepared, which being ac-
complished, he presently dispatcheth messengers from ship
to ship with letters of direction, for their suddaine landing
to all his Captaines, who knowing the Dukes pleasure,
slacke no time for the performace of his will. Such hast
was made on all sides, that ere Phœbus showed his glitte-
ring beames on the earth, the Duke with all his power
were landing, & by his leaders, (who had viewed the City)
made choise of their ground to encampe in, where they fall
to worke at all handes, trenching, furnishing of tentes,
and buyldinge of Cabines and other provisions for their
succours.

The morning watch comming to the top of the walles,
to relieue their companions, looking out with more diligece
(by like) then the rest, espieing the ensignes waving in the
wind, by their bell gave notice to the Citizens, who on the
subdaine were amazed, yet every man was in armes, and
hastened to their places of defence. The rumor of this newes
brought to the court, Flodericus the usurping Duke sup-
posed Sextilius, who lay intramped on the other side, had
made some sally toward the citie: but when hee was ad-
uertised of the contrarie, and that none (as hee perceiued)
could geue him certaine intelligence what they were, but
supposed them to bee straungers come from other Coun-
tries, by the number of shippes which they had anchoring
in the harbour.

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This newes was worse welcome then the former be-
halfe, and stroke such a terrour in Flodericus, that as one
dispaire of his euill intent, hee breaketh out into these
speeches.

Flodericus, thou seest now, that to gouerne a state is to
be cares Captiue: vncertaine is the state gotten by guyle,
and dispoiling thy friend: what man hast thou euer seene to
prosper with any thing gotten by treacherie? Then howe
canst thou hope of any good more, with quietnes to be pos-
sessed in this Dukedome, which thou by treason inioyest?
No, no Flodericus, blood requireth blood, he which traito-
reth his sword against his Soueraigne, shall perishe by the
same. If this saying be true, as no doubt it is, then misera-
ble man, what shall become of thee, which hast not onely cri-
led thy prince, his Lady and sweete children, but put thy
friend who loued thee to death: vengeance therefore is thy
merde, and shamefull will be thy end. Miserable Floderi-
cus, whose hap is now so hard as thine, which shalt be now
inforced to resigne that, which by vnlawfull meanes thou
dost force vpon thy selfe: Ah ambition, I see now how like
a worme thou gnawest vpon the heart: till thou haue ea-
ten it a sunder. Ambition led me to those mischiefes, who
might haue leuied in mine owne estate a principall member
of my country, beloued and feared: yea, and whose was it
that I might not command? but repentance commeth too
late, wretched man, yet seeke the safetie of thy countryman,
let not their blood be shed for thy offence, But peece thee
vnto the mercie of them, whose comming (questionles)
is to be reuenged on thee.

Oh Andrugio, noble Duke and rightfull heir to this
Dukedome, would God I did know wher thou or thine re-
maine (if any of you breath life) that I might (acknow-
ledging my dutie pilgrimlike on my bare feete) traueile to
finde you and bring you to your owne possessions.

But vaine it is for mee to make lamentation for his losse
of

of whome as yet I neuer heard tidings, no doubt his soule
 resteth safe in the bosome of his redeemer: hee an innocent,
 thou a murderer, nay a Homycide that hath slaughtered his
 Prince, his Soueraigne, and the anointed of God, for
 whose haynous offence, there is no submission can pene-
 trate the highest, nor no pardon be purchased for thee and
 thine. Confusion shall fall vpon thee, and vpon all traytors,
 who cannot liue long, but God will roote out. Ah *Floderi-
 cus*, where was the remembrance of this thou now rehear-
 sest, when thou didst first attempt this odious fact, vnde in y
 sight of God and men, by whose iustice thou shalt be pulled
 downe, and thy posteritie rooted from the dukedome of
 Saxonie: but wouldest to God that were the worst, Then
 should I offer my necke to the sword of those that seek my
 blood, and so make an attonement for my people, who inno-
 cently are like to be spoiled: but dispayre *Flodericus*, there
 can be no offence so hainous as treason, therefore inexcusa-
 ble before the throne of the iust iudge, where we shall all
 make our accompt. Oh y I had perished in my mothers
 wombe, or that being borne, I had neuer liued, to attaine
 the state of a man. In vaine waste I these friuolous spee-
 ches, Linger not the time *Flodericus*, suffer not thy sub-
 iertes to be spoiled, nor thy countrie ruinated, thou knowest
 strangers in a forraigne countrie hold all their owne they
 lay hand on, and what is there gotten, is well gotten: mise-
 rable is that land, where strangers in warlike sorte follow
 their ensignes, consider therefore the harines which may
 be done to thy people, and send to the campe to knowe their
 pleasure, and what they demand, so shalt thou be the sooner
 aduised, whether it is best to defend thee by armes, or by
 submission, yeeld thee vnto his mercie, if they come in
 right of *Sextillianus*, why then, my title is as good as hye,
 who were both vsurpers of anothers right, if in the behalfe
 of our lawfull Duke, why then yeeld thee. Would God it
 were so, then should I neuer stand on tearmes, but resigne
 his dukedome, who being of noble and honourable dispo-

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tion, might receiue me to merrie, if not my selfe, yet will not punishe my babes for the fathers offence. This restrained by the aboundance of teares, issuing from his eyes, he endeth his sorrowfull oration, determining, in all haste to dispatche a messenger to the campe, that he might be aduertised what they were, and there demandes, which accordingly was accomplished: the messenger making small hast, the duke of Millaine was come to the walles before that he could get out, and had summoned the same, of whome the Citizens craue parlie, which he granted, and upon hostage deliuered for his securitie, entered the same, where in the counsell house, the chiefeest and best of the countrie were assembled: vnto whome the Duke said.. Nobles and you subiects to the lawfull heyres of Saxony, know that I come as a friend to your duke and you, not as an enemy, if you yeeld to what in right I haue to say vnto you all, it is not vnknew, how most trayterously these vsurping recreants, Flodericus and his companion Gonsalo, haue behaued themselves against their liege Lord and soueraigne, depriving him of his lawfull right, and exiling his wife and children, to the Duke I knowe not what is happend, hauing not seene him this xii. yeares, at least: Therefore can I not report of credite, whether hee liue or rest in death. But to aduertise you, wherefore I come in armes as you see, is in the right and maintenance of the duchesse, and the prince her sonne: Who by me, haue bene since their exile releued, and by me as I am bound by law of armes and conscience, shalbe againe established in their right, or I and my followers will leaue our liues in the cause. Therefore my Lords, aduise you whether you will see the ruine of your countrie, or receaue your Prince, as rightfull heire, and deliuer th at vsurper Flodericus into my handes. I craue but right, as your selues can iudge, wherefore let me haue answer to my content, and haue peace, or otherwise stand vpon your defence, for this is my resolute determination. The nobles of Saxonie, which were friends to Andrugio,

to Fortune,

Andrugio, and the commons were ioyfull at the hart to heare the duke report the cause of his coming, hoping that God had sent him to cure that heauie griefe of heart, which generally they indured. But the contrarie part was not a little appaled to heare this newes, wherefore they craue some time to determine of their answer. To which he willingly consenteth, giuing two dayes libertie for the same, in which time he demandeth to be resolved, without longer delay, that he might assure himselfe of peace or warre. Thus hauing deliuered the cause of his coming, hee departed to the campe, where hee caused to be proclaymed, that no souldier of what estate or condition soeuer, should commit any manner of outrage against any of the country whatsoeuer, neither imbellish the goodes or cattels of them or any of the m, on paine of losing his head.

The Duke hauing taken his leaue, Flodericus was advertised what hee demanded, whose heart suspecting as much before (as guiltie consciences be timorous) was not a little greened: yet he considered that the right was none of his, and therefore could not assure himselfe of his subiects, who hated him for diuers causes: Besides, the life of Gonzalo, whom he had caused to be murdered, stroke a greater feare to his heart then before: wherefore doubtfull what to doe, at length resoluerh by the citizens, to retaine the duke of Millaine his determinate answer, for the which he speedily dispatcheth messengers, vnto whome, when they were all assembled, he saith.

My louing friendes and countrymen, the time is now come, that God hath determined to cut me off, no longer to gouerne you, the which I haue long expected, yet had not grace to lament my life past, wherefore his rod is readie lifted vp against me and my house, whose ruine is at hand which euer hath bene noble, now shall it be made miserable and ignoble, my selfe the cause, which haue procured the same. Ah my Lord Andrugio, my cruell dealinges with thee and thine, neuer departed out of my remembrance, no

neuer

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never slept I without the remembrance of thee our virtuous Ladie, whose life in most traiterous wise, I conspired. But woe is me, and accursed be the time I offered violence against my Lord and his: But my friends, and loving Countrymen, it is not now time to holde you with talke, onlie resolve what is to be done for your safetie, whose lives and welfare you shall see, is more deare then mine owne, for my hainous offence committed against you in spilling the bloud of many your friends, to attaine this place of honour wherein Tyrant like I have governed you, which I most heartily beseech you to pardon.

For mine owne life I esteeme not, but yet for my self willingly to death for your securitie: yet my good friends, though I perish, shew mercie to my children, who are innocent of my hainous offence, and preserve their lives which may prove better then the father, and regard the honour of their Ancestours, which I never respected. This is the summe of my request, which if you graunt, my death shall be much more welcome unto me, to which I must perforce submit me: you know my minde, aduertise the Duke of Gallaine, of what I have determined, seeke your owne securitie, and let me perish with the sword, that have made the offence.

The nobles & citizens, that heard his sorrowfull processe, albeit they hated him to the death, was moved with pite of his ruthfull tale, and grieved for his children, pretending to become humble suiters for them, yet commanded they a guard to be kept about the court, untill the Duke was entered, that none of them might escape, to avoyde displeasure.

Having set all thinges in order, The nobles who before had determined to receaue him in very brave maner departed the citie, to the Campe of the Duke, who hearing by an embassadour, before dispatched, of their coming, came out to meete them; whome on their knees, the Lordes and Citizens, beseeche of mercie, and in their Dukes behalfe

to Fortune.

behalt, whose by right it was, to enter the citie, and receive the government.

Small intreatie served to perswade the Duke, who sought not their harmes in any sort: wherefore taking direction for his armies, accompanied with the chiefest of his eraine and Captaines, he entered the citie, where hee was royally entertained, and conducted to the Courte where Flodericus and his company with sorrowe attended the sentence of death.

The duke being thus with honor in their princes behalt entertained, gaue thanks vnto them all, exhorting them to continue trusty and faithfull to their duke and his lawfull inheritor, assuring them, that God who had euer defended the right, would alwaies fauour the innocent, and subuert the Traitor. Great ioy was there throughout the region of Baronie for this happy tydings, where Alphonsus son and heir to Andrugio was proclaimed duke, at which euery man reioysed.

The Duke seeing all thinges brought in such happy manner to his content, & saw that the people in faithfull wise were linked to the prince, he discharged the most of his soldiers, and gaue order to his nobles for the prince Alphonsus, whome with the Duchesse he commanded with all expedition he might be, should come to recouere their right, aduertising them by letters of his good successe, and how the peoples heartes were bent to honor them.

This done he commanded Flodericus to be brought to his presence, whome honorablie he vled, commanding him to sit down by him, where hec declared how unhonorablie he had dealt by his noble friend Duke Andrugio, in exiling him and his children, vsurping his right, whereunto he had no title, with many examples howe God had punished the like offences in many, and that doubtlesse God would punish an offence so hainous on him and his posteritie.

Flodericus, whose conscience accused him of as much as the Duke had said, could not excuse his fault, which was too

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well known, neither did he craue life for himselfe, for that he expected the contrarie, but besought the Duke, howsoever it should please his excellencie to deale with him, to take compassion on his tender children, whom he hoped would become good subiectes, and being warned by his unhappie fall, prouoe faithfull to the estate for euer.

The Duke whose heart was moued to pitie, taking no pleasure in his death, neither the subuersion of his house which was alwaies noble, wherefore shewing his noble mind and inclination to pitie, pronounceth his dome on this maner.

Flodericus usurper of the lawfull right and title of thy late liege Lord, the honorable Duke Andrugio: I do in requitall of thy dishonorable fact, banish thee and thine from this thy natie countrie of Saxonie, neuer to returne vpon paine of death, vnlesse it shal please God thou find the duke and canst intreat him to come and inioy his right and gouernment of this countrie, thy children and lady after some yeares to inioy their patrimonie, what euer become of thee: Fourtie daies libertie I giue thee to prouide things bebecoming thy estate, after which time not to be scene in this dominion vpon paine of thy life.

Flodericus hearing the iudgement of the Duke, was toyed at the heart to escape with life, which had deserued death in the most extreamest maner, wherefore humblye pceding thanks for his gracious clemencie, he departeth his presence.

The Duke hauing taken this order with Flodericus hearing Sextillius Gonsalo his sonne had not yet dislodged his campe, commoneth him by a Heraught to come and pced to his mercie, or otherwise without fauour to receiue his desert. the Heraught omitting no time til he came to y^e campe of Sextillius, deliuereth his message, wh^o Sextillius entertaineth honorable: and hauing heard what fauour the Duke had showed to Flodericus, he standeth not
now

not upon tearms, but made proclamation that euery man should depart to his home, and he himself would procure the Dukes pardon for them all, or reede his life for them, this done, euery man at the first warning, glad to bee cased of their toile, and more ioyful of their yong Dukes returne, presently depart with bag and baggage.

When Sextillius came before the Duke, who had examined the cause of his insurrection to be in the reuenge of his father, murdered by Flodericus, hee was the sooner perswaded to receiue him to mercie: wherefore in hope that he would become a dutifull subiect and acknowledge Alphonfus sonne and heire to Andrugio his lawfull prince and shew the like signe of obedience, he pardoneth his faule & honorable entertaineth him, pardoning also al such as had offended with him.

Sextillius seeing the noble minde of the Duke of Millaine, humbly thanketh his excellencie for this undescrued fauour, & taking oath for his loyaltie, had leaue to depart at his pleasure.

The fortunate successe of y^e Millain Duke was brought vnto the Duchesse Susania, whose heart you may suppose was not a litle ioyfull to heare the same: wherefore according to y^e dukes pleasure she hastneth to him with as much speede as might be. All things for their iourney being ready, the Duchesse with the prince Alphonfus her sonne, geuing great thanks to the Duchesse for her friendship shewen in their extremitie, a happy gale began to blow, which by the Nobles to the Duchesse declared, she slacketh no opportunity, but taking her leaue imbarqueth her and her son to the port of her desire wherein shortly they arrived, and was most honorably with great triumphes by her Nobles and conunons entertained.

Thus the prince as lawfull inheritor, being quietly possessed by the Duke of Millaine, in his Dukedome: they passed sometimes in pleasure, riding to see the state of the coun-

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trie, and biling pastimes of recreation, the Duke carefull to see his lady and countrie, hauing seene all thinges, finishes to the young Dukes desire, taking leaue of the Duchesse, the prince and his Nobles, betaketh himselfe to the sea, where we leaue him homewards bound, where he shortly arrived.

All thinges ordered according to desire on all partes, nothing wanting but the Duke Andrugio, for whome was not a litle sorrow throughout the whole Dukedome: of whom (curteous reader) if thou friendly accept this already written, thou shalt (if God permit) heare more in the second part, wherein thou shalt finde matter of much delight, and not altogether unprofitable.

In the mean time I craue thy friendly censure & pardon for such faulkes, as he comitted, or escaped by the printer, being not wel acquainted with my writing.

Finis.



